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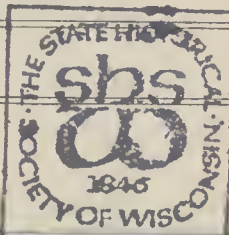
WARREN A. PATRICK

GENERAL DIRECTOR.

THIS WEEK'S NEWS THIS WEEK

Vol. IV No. 1

CHICAGO



December 26, 1908



Courtesy of The Chicago American

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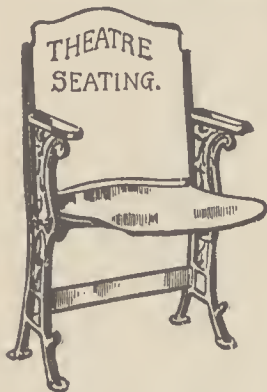
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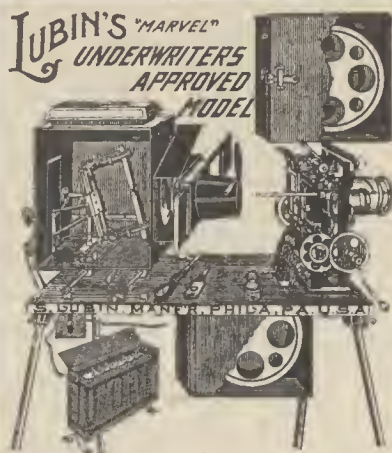
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THE SHOW WORLD

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY AMUSEMENT WEEKLY

Published at 87 South Clark Street, Chicago, by THE SHOW WORLD Publishing Co.

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June 25, 1907

WARREN A. PATRICK, GENERAL DIRECTOR

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Volume IV—No. 1

CHICAGO

December 26, 1908

NEGRO HUMILIATED BY RINGLING BROTHERS

Makes Good His Threat to Sue Circus
Owners Because of His Removal
from Seats.

Winston-Salem, N. C., Dec. 21.

John S. Fitts, the negro who together with his wife and three other women, was ordered to move from where he was sitting among white people at the performance of the Ringling Brothers Circus here on Oct. 14, has made good his threat to bring suit and has filed his complaint setting forth the circumstances and praying for \$1,000 damages. The action is against A. R. Ringling, Charles Ringling, Al Ringling, Otto Ringling and John Ringling.

A part of Fitts' complaint reads as follows:

"That the plaintiff was ordered to move merely because he was a person of color. That the circus tent was filled with some fifteen or twenty thousand persons, and the plaintiff at the time of his removal by the defendants was in full view of the assemblage of people gathered within the tent.

"That on account of the treatment of the plaintiff and his companions by the agent of the defendants, they left their seats and the circus tent, having to leave their seats and to walk out in full view of all the spectators.

"That by reason of the removal of the plaintiff from his seat by the defendants, in the manner herein set out, the plaintiff was greatly humiliated and injured in his feelings in the sum of one thousand dollars."

The fact that the negroes' attorneys estimate the crowd in attendance here as "some fifteen or twenty thousand people" shows how little they know of the seating capacity of a circus tent.—GRAINGER.

W. V. M. A. TO SUPPLY STOCK COMPANIES?

South Bend, Ind., Dec. 23.

The Indiana theater, which has been a bone of contention among vaudeville booking agencies for some time, is about to abandon its vaudeville policy, and, according to present plans, will install a stock company, beginning Jan. 4. It is said that the Western Vaudeville Association will not only obtain the players, but will guarantee their salaries.—DINKLE.

The Indiana has been booked in turn by Paul Goudron, the W. V. M. A. and Paul Goudron and the W. V. M. A. in the order here named. Sam DuVries is thought to have opened negotiations with the management to book the acts, but the change of policy has settled the matter. At the offices of the W. V. M. A. neither an affirmation nor denial of the report that the association would select and guarantee the stock salaries could be obtained. If the report is true, that the W. V. M. A. will do this, it signifies a departure from the customary duties of the association and may be the beginning of a new venture in a new field. Gus Mortimer has been engaged for leading roles.

CAST OF WHITE RAT COMPANY ANNOUNCED.

Show to Open at Keokuk, Iowa—Bobby Gaylor to Head the Acts.

The White Rats are to organize a number of traveling companies which will fill the time in idle theaters throughout the country.

The first of these companies to be organized in Chicago will open at Keokuk, Iowa, on Christmas day and will consist of Bobby Gaylor and company, The Ferrars, Ed Keough and company, Harris & Beauregard, Paul & Miller, Appleton & Perry, Cushing, Merrill & Davis, Joseph St. Claire and Hill & Savini.

This company will play many one-night stands and will make week stands at St. Louis, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, Louisville and other cities, appearing in the legitimate houses. The names of the theaters are not given out at this time.

Altman Wins Race.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Dec. 21.

Joe Altman, scratch man in the one mile, free for all race at Music hall rink Saturday night, won first time, 2:49; Hans Meyer, second and Bert Springer, third.—CLARENCE E. RUNEY.

BIOGRAPH-EDISON MERGE PATENTS

New Company Incorporated by Leading Film Factors and
Legal Difficulties Now at End.

At a meeting of the leading Edison and Biograph licensees, held in New York City last Friday, arrangements were perfected whereby the Motion Picture Patents company, which, as was exclusively announced in THE SHOW WORLD some weeks ago, was incorporated in New Jersey, merged the patent holdings of the Edison and Biograph companies. These patents cover practically the entire motion picture business. The following officers were elected:

President, Frank L. Dyer, and secretary, George F. Seull, of the Edison Manufacturing company, and vice-president, H. N. Marvin, and treasurer, J. J. Kennedy, of the Biograph company.

The following licensees of the Motion Picture Patents company were announced: Edison Manufacturing company, American Mutoscope & Biograph company; Pathe Freres, George Melles company, Vitagraph company of America, Kalem company, Inc., Essanay company, Selig Polyscope company, George Kleine and Lubin Manufacturing company.

Motion pictures manufactured under the license of the Motion Picture Patents company will be leased, and not sold, and will be subject to return to the various manufacturers at stated intervals.

Licensed motion pictures will be leased for use only on projecting machines, which are also licensed by the Motion Picture Patents company. There will be a nominal license fee to be paid by each exhibitor and the funds thus raised will be used in promoting the best interests of the business. None of the officers of the Motion Picture Patents company are salaried.

It is hoped by this movement to do away with the vexatious litigation which has long harassed the business, to guarantee to the renters and the exhibitors a sufficient quantity of the best American and foreign films and to prevent the demoralized state of affairs which now prevails abroad, where no organization exists. All the licensees are manufacturers except Mr. George Kleine, who, as is well known, is the American representative of several of the best known and most meritorious of the foreign manufacturers.

No increase in price of films in contemplation.

Among the prominent patents which have been purchased—in addition to those of the Edison company, and the Biograph company—may be mentioned the Armat patents, which are said to control projecting patents; the Jenkins patents, the Pross patents, the Vitagraph patents, and the Campbell patent.

The new license agreement takes effect January 1, 1909.

The official announcement of the Moving Picture Patents Company, giving the names of its licensees, has created a great deal of excitement among rental exchanges as to the treatment which is to be given them by the licensed manufacturers, under the new conditions. As many of these exchanges have applied to THE SHOW WORLD for information, a representative called at the offices of George K. Spoor, W. N. Selig and George Kleine, the Chicago licensees of the Motion Picture Patents Company.

Mr. Selig had not yet returned from the east, and Messrs. Spoor and Kleine both stated that it is the intention of the manufacturers to treat the licensed exchanges in the most liberal manner, and that no action will be taken except with a view to conservation of their interests.

The manufacturers take the broad ground that their own prosperity is associated with that of the rental exchanges. Whatever rules will be laid down will be conservative, and will inure to the benefit of all exchanges which conduct their business along honorable and decent lines.

As soon as information was given as to the action of the Motion Picture Patents Company, it appears that New York and Chicago exchanges jumped at the conclusion that the licenses which have been issued to the manufacturers are necessarily inimical to the interests of the exchanges, and they at once assumed a resentful attitude, which is both unwarranted and unwise. It is desired that a spirit of harmony prevail, and it would be unfortunate if premature dissensions were to influence a trend of affairs which now bid fair to lead to harmony and a conclusive betterment of trade conditions.

THE SHOW WORLD would advise everybody interested in the motion picture business, both exhibitors and exchanges, to suspend judgment and action until all of the facts coincident with this movement, and every detail are evolved. Precipitate action might give rise to unnecessary disturbances, and difficulties might be created that would confound the situation, and retard the objects in view, which are for the betterment of general conditions of the entire industry.

THE SHOW WORLD is informed in the most positive terms that the licensees of the Motion Picture Patents Company have taken no action which is inimical to the interests of either existing rental exchanges or the theaters whom they supply with films.

MOTION PICTURES FOR STAIR HOUSES

Reported That Melodramatic Circuit Will Undergo Change
of Policy.

The change of policy of the Stair-Havlin circuit theaters may be even broader than would be supposed from a reading of the changes to be made on page five of this issue.

It has been repeatedly stated in Chicago, by those who claim to have talked with people who know, that the melodramatic theaters will be devoted to moving pictures, excepting those houses which have been playing the better grade of Stair-Havlin attractions, and those houses where the local managers will not hear of the change of policy.

It is stated that the Bijou in Chicago will offer pictures. It is said that George Middleton would not hear of that policy at the Academy, although Stair & Havlin favored it. The Weber Brother would not consider the proposition at the Alhambra, it is reported.

It is stated that the Third Avenue in New York will have pictures, also the Lyceum in Cincinnati.

Martin Beck, general manager of the Orpheum circuit, was in Chicago this week.

JOHN TUDMAN FAY COMMITTS SUICIDE

Son of Anna Eva Fay and Husband of
Eva Fay Takes His Own Life.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 21.

John Tudman Fay, a son of Anna Eva Fay, the spiritualistic medium and mind reader, and whose wife, under the name of Mrs. Eva Fay, has been doing a similar turn at an Oakland theater, committed suicide in his rooms at the Hotel St. Mark, Oakland, last night by shooting.

Despondency over financial matters, a general nervousness and fear that his wife might break down under the strain of her work, are given as the cause of his suicide. Mrs. Fay had no intimation or reason to suspect that her husband meditated ending his life.

WILDMAN MARRIED FOR FORTY YEARS

Popular Chicago Dramatic Agent Recipient
of Congratulations of Hundreds of Friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wildman, of Chicago, celebrated the fortieth anniversary of their marriage Dec. 19, and on that occasion a number of friends gathered at their home and since that time hundreds of friends and admirers of the veteran showman have called at his office and congratulated him upon passing what is generally considered in his case the mark between youth and middle age.

Mr. and Mrs. Wildman were married at Beloit, Wis., forty years ago. Her stage name was Clara Strickland and she was at that time a member of The White Fawn, which was owned and managed by Mr. Wildman and the late T. W. Davy, the father of Mrs. Fiske.

HARRY LAUDER AT ORCHESTRA HALL

Celebrated Scotch Comedian Made His
Initial Bow to Chicago
Wednesday.

Harry Lauder, the celebrated Scotch comedian, who has been imitated in nearly every burlesque show which struck Chicago this season, and for whom a corps of clever press agents obtained more publicity than a circus ever received, made his initial appearance in Chicago Wednesday at Orchestra hall.

He is an artist from the bottom of his kilts to the feather in his cap, and his quaint humor, charming personality and catchy songs make him a wonderful favorite. His impersonations of the country Scotchman, the Scotch schoolboy, the Highlander and the clansman in kilt and shawl are all clever.

The remainder of the vaudeville acts are good. Willy Zimmerman, The Three Constantine Sisters, Adamini and Taylor, Virginia Verville and Yamamoto and Koyoshi scored hits.

HOPP IS BOUND OVER; NORMAN DISMISSED.

The hearing of the case in which William H. Swanson, president of Wm. H. Swanson & Company, who charged Joseph Hopp, president of the Standard Film Exchange, and Thomas Norman and C. H. Wyatt, his employees, with receiving stolen films, came to a conclusion last week, and Hopp and Wyatt were bound over to the grand jury, while Norman was dismissed.

Herald Square Burns.

New York, Dec. 22.

A fire, caused by defective insulation in the electric sign, which was fed by wires leading over the balcony, completely wrecked the Herald Square theater tonight, just as the curtain went down on the last act of Three Twins. Nearly all of the audience had left the house at the time. The company had a narrow escape, many of the girls fleeing in their tights. Bessie McCoy fainted and had to be carried out. The damage will be repaired.—WALTER.

Belasco Invades Hartford.

Hartford, Conn., Dec. 23.

Negotiations between David Belasco and H. H. Jennings will probably end with the Belasco attractions appearing here this season and the Hartford opera house being turned over to Belasco.—WALTER.

MANAGERS PLAYING AGAINST GREAT ODDS

Actors Seldom in Sympathy With Employers Who Fail to Pay Salaries Despite the Formers Good Intentions.

lity the poor manager. He is also having his troubles this season.

It is well enough to call attention to the fact that there are more idle actors and actresses on Broadway now than there was last June and that there are hundreds of professionals in Chicago right now who do not know where the next meal is to come from, but do not overlook the fact in this connection that the manager is not finding it smooth sailing.

"When a firm puts out three or four shows it hates to close them. There is no fun in acknowledging to your fellows that you can't make a show go nor is there any delight in having your credit injured by admitting that losses drain your bank account beyond its capacity and the closing of a company is taken to be an admission of this kind.

A Chicago producing firm stood to lose \$14,000 this season before it commenced to call in the shows which were suffering most. There are half a dozen producing firms in the same city which have lost from \$5,000 to \$15,000 so far this season. And it must not be forgotten that \$10,000 is a lot of money in the show business. There are not twenty men in the business who can lose that amount and retain their cheerful disposition.

A Chicago manager put out a show eight or nine weeks ago and as all of the members of the cast were broke when the company was organized he advanced each member from \$25 to \$50 as is the custom. It would be concluded by those who do not know the theatrical business that the actors would have appreciated this favor on the part of the manager.

A few days ago the company manager wired from an Ohio town that business was so bad that he could not pay salaries and buy tickets to the next stand. The Chicago manager wired his representative to pay half salaries, explain to the people that the rest would be forthcoming in a day or so, and move on.

The traveling manager did as instructed.

When the company reached the next stand every individual member is reported to have taken his pen in hand and written a hot letter to the owner of the show in Chicago giving him to understand that it was out of the question for an actor to remain with an aggregation where there was a delay in the payment of salaries.

The Chicago manager had often run up against the ingratitude of actors, but this was the straw which broke his back. Disgusted with the failure to appreciate the money he had advanced when the performers were needy he wired his representative to close the show at once.

Who can blame him?

Marsh Now a Manager.

Terre Haute, Ind., Dec. 18.

Joe Marsh, comedy cartoonist, quit the stage at the end of his engagement at the Lyric last week to get over on the other side of the business. From here he went to Blue Island, Ill., to take the man-

agement of a theater controlled by the Western Vaudeville Managers' Association. Marsh was first an artist, then a vaudevillian. At one time he drew illustrations for fiction published by the Hearst syndicate of newspapers. A trained chimpanzee brought him a good income for several seasons but the monkey dropped dead on the Orpheum stage in Kansas City two years ago. Marsh then went back to making comedy pictures from the stage, spending one Sunday preparing the act which was put on the next Monday and was continued until he recently signed a contract to become a house manager.—GARVER.

ATTRACTIONS NEEDED THROUGH MINNESOTA.

So Few Companies Now in That Section That Managers May Forget How to Count Up.

Faribault, Minn., Dec. 23.

What has become of the traveling companies? Where, oh where, have the shows gone?

This section of the country needs troupes very much. Some of the one-

UNCLE TOM HAS COST MARTIN A FORTUNE

Some Facts in Connection With Mrs. Stowe's Famous Play Are Being Recalled.

Two of the Marvin stock companies played Uncle Tom's Cabin in Chicago, last week and Morris McHugh and William McKay's portrayal of the faithful old darkey of whom Mrs. Stowe wrote has caused a revival of Uncle Tom chat among show folks.

It is pointed out that the play is not so popular as it used to be, and the fact that there are fewer companies en route this season than in the last decade is offered as proof of the statement.

It is reported in this connection that Al W. Martin, who is now in Chicago, disposed of his last holdings in the property recently and it is estimated that he sank something like \$100,000 in trying to establish the play in the Stair & Havlin houses.

Ed Slater, in Chicago recently as manager of the McPadden's Flats company, was a partner of Martin when the Martin Uncle Tom company was first organized. The firm was known as Salter & Martin. Later Slater withdrew from the firm and until within a year or two Al Martin owned the companies, although the management was largely in the hands of his brother, Ed S. Martin.

Martin did not lose faith in the piece when it failed to get money and refused

Uncle Tom's Cabin in New York several years ago and did not hesitate to spend money for advertising. Wilton Lackaye and other well-known players appeared in the all star cast.

The first version of Uncle Tom was made at the suggestion of George C. Howard, the manager of the Troy museum, by George L. Aiken, a brother of Frank E. Aiken. It was produced in Troy in 1851. C. Leslie Allen, father of Viola Allen; W. J. LeMoine and George Aiken were in the cast. It was later taken to New York, where it made a big hit at George L. Fox's National theater. In those days \$2,500 was a big week and the play prospered for a long time.

Many other versions of the play have been used since 1851, but the original six-act adaptation still survives. Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe received comparatively nothing for the stage use of the play. She received \$300 for the serial right of this novel in the Era. A Boston firm offered to publish the book on a half and half basis, but Mrs. Stowe felt too poor to assume the risk. It was eventually brought out on a 10 per cent royalty basis, and in six months she received \$20,000. Its success all over the world is a matter of record.

At one time or another nearly every prominent actor in the country has appeared in Uncle Tom.

COURT OF APPEALS REVERSES DECISION.

Work on Rudolph Hynicka's Vaudeville House in Louisville Is Held Up.

Cincinnati, O., Dec. 19.

The Court of Appeals at Frankfort, Ky., yesterday reversed the decision of the Jefferson Circuit Court in the case growing out of the validity of the building permit granted to Rudolph Hynicka of this city who is building a new vaudeville theater in Louisville. Judge Muller, attorney for Mr. Hynicka, said that the effect of the decision would be to stop work on the new theater and the probabilities are, they will hold the city of Louisville for damages in granting a permit and allowing the building to be nearly completed and then to enjoin them on technicality. The Board of Public Safety granted the permit in the original way, but the building inspector refused to grant it because the length of the corridor was greater by 70 feet than that prescribed as the maximum in the building ordinance, and on account of other alleged discrepancies, but was afterwards amended and approved by the Board of Public Safety. The case will probably go to the Federal Court.—CLARENCE E. RONEY.

A slight advance in the prices for down stairs seats has been made at the Novelty theater in Topeka, Kan. The night prices are now 20 cents for the best seats instead of 15 cents, as in the past.

GAMES OF GRAFT.

THE SHOW WORLD Invites All Members of the Profession of Entertainment to Contribute to This Column—An Accepted Article Entitles the Writer to a Six Months' Subscription to THE SHOW WORLD and Permanent Membership In

THE SOCIETY OF THE STUNG.

GAME NUMBER FOURTEEN.

This game is never played unless the manager of the opera house is the owner or manager of a print shop. It begins when the agent arrives. He is at once informed that a great error has been made in the dates. The theater is called the "Wilson" when it should be "Willson." It is designed as the "opera house" when it is the "Academy," or else the matinee is not mentioned on the dates from the show print. To rectify these errors slips must be gotten out and the cost is two or three times what it should be. The advance agent hates to be short and lets his "O. K." go on a bill which he knows is exorbitant—this is equivalent to the payment of matriculation fees in this society.—C. L. T.

night stand houses have been dark for two or three weeks at a time recently.

There has not been a repertoire show in this immediate section since last August.

Local managers say that their bookings for the season were the best they have ever had but as the weeks went by the shows have dropped off the road, one by one, until companies are now so scarce that the managers are likely to forget how to count up a house.—CAMPBELL.

to listen to his friends who tried to discourage him. He had faith in Uncle Tom and went almost to the last cent before he would be convinced that an expensive company could not be made to pay.

Leon Washburn has made a great deal of money out of the play, but he has always run cheap companies and played the small and large one-night stands as they came.

Al Martin bucked the all star cast of

NEW THEATERS AND NEW CORPORATIONS

NEW THEATERS

Bangor, Me.

The new theater, which is to be opened in Norombega hall, under the management of James P. Forrest, is expected to be opened next week. A big force of carpenters, electricians and plumbers are at work transforming this famous old playhouse into a modern and up-to-date theater which will have a capacity of 1,200 or 1,300 people. The Norombega has been leased by James E. Moore, of Portland, and he intends to make the venture he has in hand a success. Combined vaudeville and moving pictures will be put on at the Norombega at popular prices and Mr. Moore promises that it will be far ahead of anything yet attempted here.

Spokane, Wash.

The opening of the new Casino theater at 813 Riverside avenue, with J. Q. Clemmer, manager, took place recently. Allen H. Dougherty, a well known Chicago baritone, has been engaged to sing the illustrated songs in the new playhouse, which is to be operated jointly with the Seattle theater in Seattle, also owned by Mr. Clemmer. This theater is said to be one of the finest in the city with a seating capacity of 300.—SMITH.

San Marcos, Tex.

An opera house will be erected to cost \$20,000.

Tacoma, Wash.

Sullivan and Considine have sublet the Star theater for one year to Henry McNac, manager of the Henry McRae stock, and he promises to tear the house down and rebuild it into a modern theater.

Coney Island, N. Y.

Plans have been made for a new combination casino and theater to cost \$100,-

000. It will be located on the site of Bader's old road house, at Ocean Parkway and Sea Breeze avenue.

Joliet, Ill.

Messrs. Kohl and Castle will erect a vaudeville house here.

Manistee, Mich.

The Empire theater here has been so much remodeled that it may now be classed among the new theaters.

Cincinnati, O.

The Orpheum Theater Company, of which Col. I. M. Martin, manager of Chester Park, is the head, will erect a new theater here on Vine street north of Eighth. It will be devoted to vaudeville.

Richmond, Ind.

O. G. Murry, manager of the new Phillips theater, is in consultation with architects here and will build a new playhouse at Main and Tenth streets. Ground will be broken about March 1. The seating capacity will be about 900. It will play vaudeville.

NEW INCORPORATIONS

Ohio.

The National Theater Company is the name of a new company incorporated at Cincinnati, Dec. 15, under the laws of the state of Ohio in the place of the Colonial Theater Company, announced in a previous issue of THE SHOW WORLD. It being found that another corporation in Cleveland held the latter name. The name of the new theater, however, will be the Colonial. Amount of capital subscribed, \$25,000. Thomas Reilly is the moving spirit in the undertaking.—CLARENCE E. RONEY.

The Euclid Theater Company, Cleve-

land, was incorporated; capital, \$1,000. C. E. Comstock and others.

New York.

Albany is to have a new amusement corporation known as the Fairy Land Amusement Company. The concern was incorporated recently with the secretary of state. The directors of the enterprise are Nettie Hellman and Harry Hellman of No. 51 Maiden Lane, this city, and Julius L. Beaver of New York City. Miss Hellman holds 25 shares and is the majority stockholder. The new company is capitalized at \$5,000 and it is set forth in the articles of incorporation that it is the purpose of the directors to carry on the business of proprietors and managers of moving pictures and more pretentious attractions. The principal place of business will be this city.

Leon Berg Dramatic & Vaudeville Exchange, New York; theatricals; capital, \$5,000. Incorporators: M. Carl Levine, No. 119 Nassau street; Isaac Hyman, No. 5 Beekman street; George R. Hall, No. 815 East 165th street, all of New York.

Buffalo Park Amusement Company, Buffalo; amusement parks and theaters; capital, \$10,000. Incorporators: Clifford Nichols and L. C. Kinnis, No. 98 Erie County Bank building; Carlton H. White, No. 7 Erie County Bank building, Buffalo.

Mark & Stone Amusement Company, New York; amusements; capital, \$10,000. Incorporators: Moe Mark, Lynn, Mass.; Mark L. Stone, No. 155 West 47th street; Norman S. Riesefeld, No. 141 Broadway, both of New York.

New Jersey.

In the New York Company, Camden; amusement enterprises; capital, \$20,000. Incorporators: Joseph Hinger, Joseph Baumeister, Standley C. Muschamp, as above.

W. and E. Amusement Company, Jersey City; capital, \$50,000. Incorporators: William R. Whyte, Edward Erikson and John Whyte. The company is to engage as theatrical promoters.

Illinois.

The King Film Service has been incorporated at Chicago with a capital stock of \$10,000. The incorporators are Fainbigli, William H. Weber and R. P. Burkhalter.

The Garfield Amusement Company has been incorporated at Chicago with a capital stock of \$2,500. The incorporators are F. Bartholme, A. E. Bartholme and A. L. Brown.

International Grand Opera Company, Unity building, Chicago; to conduct amusement enterprises; capital, \$25,000. Incorporators: Benjamin F. March, Walter H. Eckert, Adolph D. Weiner.

Iowa.

Greeley, Iowa: Crystal Theater Company has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$2,000. L. Young and O. M. Nelson are the incorporators.

Indiana.

Linton, Ind.: The Grand Opera house passed from the control of the lessees, Messrs. Booher and Caswell to the Grand Opera House Company. Mr. Caswell will remain in charge of the house until the company selects a manager.

Colorado.

The Crystal Theater Company; \$12,000; William A. Weston, Charles L. Young and Ole M. Nelson, Greeley.

Missouri.

Lafayette Hall Amusement Company; capital stock, fully paid, \$15,000. Incorporators: George L. Logan, 144 shares; E. Logan, W. E. Lee and C. R. Hess, 2 shares each. To conduct entertainments.

STAIR-HAVLIN LOSE OUT ON MELODRAMAS

Many Popular Priced Theaters May Be Converted into Picture Shows—Chicago Houses May Change Policy.

The Stair-Havlin circuit is undergoing many changes and while those in authority refuse to make any announcement of their plans it is known that many of the less important theaters will be converted into moving picture houses and theaters where melodrama is unprofitable will in some instances be used for other purposes.

The reports that the circuit is disrupted are without foundation and the reports of an opposition circuit in the same field are equally absurd.

Stair & Havlin, like many other showmen, have found that the present season is a bad one. The closing of companies right and left has made it impossible to fill the time on the circuit to advantage and finding it unprofitable to have some houses dark with rent running on, the circuit managers are engaged in making changes which will insure the future prosperity of the circuit.

There is no one high in power who has lost hope in melodrama, according to reports which reach this office. The falling off in receipts, which was mentioned exclusively in this paper, is even worse than in the election year of 1904, but the promoters of this class of entertainment are confident that within a few months or by the opening of the next season, at the latest, things will be back to their normal condition.

The Shubert Deal.

The recent Shubert deal naturally led to rumors of all sorts. This arrangement makes it possible for the Shubert attractions to appear in the Stair-Havlin houses or the better grade after having served their usefulness in the higher-priced theaters.

The Wells Rumor.

There was another rumor to the effect that Stair & Havlin had bought out the Jake Wells chain of theaters in the south but this was denied by George H. Nicholas. A. W. Lingwall bought an interest in the Wells theaters some time ago and Charles E. Blaney has long held an interest. Some stock in the chain of theaters did pass into the hands of those high in the Stair-Havlin circuit recently which gave rise to the rumor.

Hurtig & Seamon Change Policy.

Hurtig & Seamon found that melodramas did not do well at the Metropolis and Yorkville, in New York, and have organized stock companies which will fill the time from now on. The new plan goes into effect this week when in the Bishop's Carriage and A Trip to Chinatown are the offerings. There will be two companies and the organizations will alternate between the two theaters.

Frank Burt Sells Out.

Frank Burt has disposed of all his holdings in the east and has gone to Denver where he will engage in the show business anew. He has sold his interests to E. D. Stair and George H. Nicolai. The sale includes stock in theaters at Peoria, Ill.; Springfield, Ill.; Port Huron, Mich.; Saginaw, Mich.; Findlay, Ohio; Steubenville, Ohio; Toledo, Ohio, and Wilmington, Del. Mr. Nicolai also purchases the three Lena Rivers shows now en route.

Mr. Burt had the Lyceum and Burt's theaters in Toledo both of which have been affiliated with the Stair-Havlin circuit. The latter has not been playing to wonderful business in recent years and it is reported that it will be turned into a moving picture house.

Jack Tierney, who has been managing Burt's resigned when the sale was made and E. R. Kelsey, formerly manager of the Lyceum, will manage both houses from now on.

Mr. Burt's check is said to have run into big figures.

Moving Pictures in Montreal.

Both Montreal and Toronto have been bad for melodramas this season, but no changes have been announced as yet further than that moving pictures will be inaugurated on Saturday at both the Academy and Theater Francaise in Montreal as a protest against the 75 cheap theaters now doing business there. The theater management expects trouble with the authorities according to reports.

At Manchester, N. H.

John Stiles has given up the lease of the Park theater at Manchester, N. H., and with the coming of the new year a new management will take hold. Manager Stiles has sunk every dollar he has in the world in the proposition. The bank which owns the house thinks that Stiles cannot possibly extricate himself from his present financial pickle. The house has been losing money for three years.

Circuit of Yiddish Theaters.

R. M. Gulick, of the Bijou in Pittsburgh, is interested in a circuit of Yiddish theaters now forming, but it is hardly likely that any of the Stair-Havlin houses will be taken over. Edwin A. Reikin is interested with Gulick and the firm will

have the Metropolitan in Chicago, the Princess in Baltimore, the Columbia in Newark, for Sunday nights only, and the Grand in Boston for Sunday nights.

Business Is Very Bad.

There is no attempt made to conceal the fact that business is very bad in many of the circuit houses. Sold into Slavery is estimated to have done only \$1,100 gross at Heuck's in Cincinnati last week

HOWARD HALL IS OPTIMISTIC.

"There is nothing in present conditions to cause melo-dramatic producers to be downhearted," said Howard Hall recently. "The same fall off in business was experienced during the campaign of 1904 and for a time after the campaign ended. I lost money then but made it back when normal conditions were restored. I am losing money now but expect to get it all back and handsome profits within a year or two."

and The Convict and The Girl is thought to have done about the same at the Lyceum week of Nov. 29. The next week San Antonio appeared at the Lyceum and business was no better. The last named show even tried to get the people in the house by old repertoire schemes, but without financial returns. Five thousand ladies tickets were put out on Thursday, but only three of them came in at night.

The Baker at Denver.

The Baker at Denver which plays similar attractions gave The Four Corners of the Earth, such bad business that the show closed. It gave Three Years in Arkansas, \$372.45 on Sunday and about \$500 on the week, and that show closed. Last week Merle H. Nortons The Missouri Girl appeared there and there is a rumor that it closed although the rumor is unconfirmed. Hi Henry's Minstrels only got \$772 at that house with daily street parades.

Shows Cannot Live.

It will be readily seen that the companies cannot live when the gross runs this low. It costs \$200 to bill the Lyceum at Cincinnati, there are \$35 worth of extras, and baggage costs 40 cents a piece while scenery goes at \$9 per load. The company manager gets 50 per cent in most instances and cannot stand the pace very long.

Situation in Chicago.

Chicago has fared better than other cities. The Great Northern has been doing fair business although it is said that George Sidney did less on his recent engagement than in any previous visit to that theater. Musical shows prosper, however, at that house and there is no particular cause for complaint. The Alhambra has been doing excellent business this season and the Academy, Bijou and Criterion have been doing fair. There was a report that the Academy would present pictures after Jan. 15, but manager William Roche denied the story when approached by a representative of this paper.

Bijou Bookings Scarce.

Good attractions are hard to secure for the Chicago houses, however, and to fill two weeks open time George Klimt will himself be seen in Texas Jack, the Hero of the Plains, at that house the week of Jan. 3, and in another bill yet to be selected during the week of Jan. 10. The Texas Jack show will be seen at Logansport on New Year's day.

Webers Would Rent.

The Weber Brothers, who own the Alhambra, are said to be in the market for tenants for the Alhambra and Columbus theaters. They are said to ask such a big rent for the Alhambra that no one can touch it and as the Columbus has proven a bad deal for Edward C. White, managers hesitate a little to try for business there. It is believed that the Webers will organize a stock company for the Columbus when Mildred Holland leaves.

BOSTON RUN PLANNED FOR A BROKEN IDOL.

Expected to Continue in Chicago till April and Run Next Summer at the Hub.

A Broken Idol is expected to remain at the Whitney theater until next April when it will be taken to Boston for a summer run.

A few one-night stands will be played en route from Chicago to Boston and with these exceptions the smaller cities are not likely to see the show until 1910 as a Broadway season is planned for the fall of 1909.

STOCK COMPANIES ARE PAYING INVESTMENTS

Charles B. Marvin Elated Over Success of His Circuit Venture—Predicts General Return of This Form of Amusement.

Charles B. Marvin's three stock houses are doing a record breaking business and as other stock companies in Chicago, and throughout the country generally, are prospering, it is being argued by some students of the show business that the tendency is to return to the old time stock company.

Mr. Marvin, who is the proprietor of the College, Marlowe and People's theaters in Chicago, says that he believes that that is the tendency. "Only last week," said Mr. Marvin, "one of Mr. Erlanger's representatives informed me that his firm was thinking of establishing high class dramatic resident companies in all of the big cities. Why, every small-town moving picture manager is transferring his theater into a cheap priced stock house. Does it pay? I should say it does. This season is probably the worst that has been seen by theatrical people in 25 years. The road business is awful. The syndicate is on the eve of closing the balconies and galleries in all their houses. Last week there were 37 theaters closed upon the Julius Cahn circuit. The up-stairs business is bad in the \$2.00 houses, but in the cheap houses it is good. That is accounted for in the fact that the man who can afford to pay two dollars a seat, has not felt the depression, but the working man would rather sit on the main floor for fifty cents than be perched 'way up next the ceiling."

Stock Houses are Paying.

"A well regulated stock house is the best paying proposition in the show business now. I am especially fortunate. I have established a system whereby I can run a stock house for just one half what it would cost another manager to run the same house. I build one production and move it around to all my three houses. One set of costumes suffices. When an actor does not work at the People's and Marlowe, I move him to the College and vice versa. Thus I eliminate engaging jobbing people. I have one press representative and one advertising promoter. I contract for one play for three weeks thus cutting royalty in half. I can say, honestly and fearlessly, that I have three of the best popular priced stock companies in existence. Thais Magrane and Albert Morrosen head my College company; Leila Shaw and Albert Phillips head my Marlowe company and Marie Nelson and Rodney Ranous head my People's company. I have the three best scenic artists in the country, Otto Schlossling, formerly Belasco's chief artist, Homer Goulet and Ed. Donigan. My press agent, Ralph T. Kettergan, is one of the liveliest in the business, and I am fairly well satisfied with life. Keep your eyes upon the stock companies, my friend, and watch them grow."

THE STOCK COMPANIES

The Rose of the Rancho ran for two weeks at the Baker in Portland, Ore.

Charlie Winninger, who went to New York early in the fall, is now at San Antonio, Tex., in stock.

Jane Gale is a new member of the Thanhouser stock company at the Bush Temple, in Chicago.

E. C. White has returned to New York after spending some time with the Mildred stock company at the Columbus in Chicago.

Edward Mackay of the Crescent stock in Brooklyn, who has been laying off on account of illness, will resume his work next week.

Frederick Belasco gobbled up nearly all of the New York successes for presentation in his San Francisco and Los Angeles stock houses.

Sam and Dot Andrews, who have been playing in stock in Minneapolis and Dubuque are at their home at Faribault, Minn., for the holidays.

The Lyric stock company at Minneapolis gave The Devil last week and it received the same attention it did when first presented by the company in November.

The Bonnie Male company will open at the Bijou in Menominee, Wis., Jan. 3 in stock. Bonnie Male, Will St. John, Beryl Jean, and Alvin Wycliffe will be in the company. Miss Male has not been in good health and her husband, Joseph Winninger, thinks it will be easier for her to be located than to travel.

It is reported that Earnest Fisher, who is at present touring the Dakotas with The Devil, has entered into a contract with Maurice Jenks by which he is to install a stock company in the New theater at Sioux Falls, S. D. If the plan goes through no more combinations will appear in that city.

Fate has been cruel to the Cunningham stock company which played for two months at Bakersfield, Cal. The troupe has disbanded and various suits have been instituted for the non-payment of debts, while Adrian Von Blank lies at the point of death from bullet wounds inflicted by an indignant citizen who is said to have found the actor in company with his wife.

The Boston stock company either has been disbanded or will be disbanded shortly, according to rumor.

Here is the way the Wolfe Stock Company casts The Devil: Karl Moeller, T. Ashton Magrane; Heinrich, H. P. Lotz; Mimi, Miss Artie Mae Blackburn; Olga Hoffman, Miss Meta Marsky; The Devil, Leon McReynolds; Elsa Berg, Miss Edna Sevier; Mademoiselle Zandan, Miss Grace Rice; Mademoiselle Reineck, Miss Erie

FRANK GAZZOLA IS CONFIDENT.

I am confident that normal conditions will be restored in the melodrama houses within a few weeks," said Frank Gazzola who returned to Chicago last Saturday night from New York where he had a conference with the powers of the popular priced circuit.

"The falling off of business is no greater in proportion than at other theaters and there is nothing in present conditions to discourage melodramatic producers."

Elverson; Mademoiselle Lassen, Miss Annie Brough; Herr Grosser, Tom B. Loftus; Herr Besser, L. P. Henry; Man servant, Donald Kennedy.

GREENWALL BUYS THE DAUPHINE STOCK CO.

Thomas Franklin Nye Company Opened but Did Not Run Long Without Tribulations.

New Orleans, La., Dec. 19.

Henry Greenwall, the old theatrical manager and owner of several theaters here and in other cities Wednesday purchased the interests of the Thomas Franklin Nye stock company, now playing at the Dauphine theater, and in the future will be responsible for anything done by that organization. The Nye stock company had been playing less than a week, after the departure of the Lester Lonergan stock company, when the manager appeared before several of the company and stated that he would be unable to pay them salaries for what they had done and for what they were going to do the rest of the week. Rehearsal for next weeks play was stopped, and much excitement prevailed. Nye was thought to have left town, with what money there was in the treasury, but he appeared again about noon, and the transaction with Mr. Greenwall took place. The stock company will remain the rest of the season under Greenwall's direction.—MILLER.

HARRISBURG HOUSE DARK FOR 10 DAYS.

Scarcity of Attractions this Season Shown by Lack of Bookings There.

Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 18.

Just at the present time doings in the theatrical world here are at a standstill, owing to the Xmas holidays coming on. Yorke and Adams in Playing the Ponies and Madam Butterfly will be the attractions at the Majestic theater this week, and when the curtain drops on the closing scene in Madam Butterfly it will not be raised until Xmas afternoon. The theater will be closed for ten days and it will be the longest period in any one theatrical season that any of the regular playhouses in Harrisburg has been dark at one time. Manager Joseph Frank promises many good things after Xmas, but what they will be is hard to say. The Xmas attractions will be Quincy Adams Sawyer, and on New Year's day the original Merry Widow Company.—BUXBAUM.

NATIONAL WILL OPEN ON NEW YEAR'S EVE.

The Three Twins Will Open Edwin Clifford's New Theater Next Thursday Night.

The New National theater in Chicago, which will be managed by Edwin Clifford, will open on New Year's Eve, with The Three Twins.

The house has already been sold out at advanced prices amounting to \$2,642.50. On Jan. 1 and 2 a musical show will be seen at the theater and it will probably be The Royal Chef.

The Straight Road will be the offering for the week of January 3 and Strongheart, Isle of Spice, Eugenie Blair in Kreutzer Sonata and James J. Corbett will be the attractions which will appear early in the new year.

Handsomely printed invitation folders are being sent out by the management.

CLEAN COMEDY ACTS ARE IN GREAT DEMAND

Pat Casey Says Musical Comedy Ravishes Vaudeville of Features
Which Strike Public Fancy.

Builder Sues Poli.
Hartford, Conn., Dec. 23.
Sylvester Z. Poli is made the defendant in a civil suit brought by James O'Laughlin, a builder of this city, to recover something like \$20,000, which he claims is the balance due him in building the Poli theater at New Haven in 1905. A counter suit has been brought by Poli against O'Laughlin and Architect Maynard, claiming \$8,030 damages in connection with the building of the Poli theater at Worcester in 1905. Poli alleges in his bill in the latter suit that "the defendants conspired to defraud the plaintiff" in the matter of issuing charges for more than the amount necessary.

Carruthers Case Continued.
The case of the Interstate Amusement Company against Edward F. Carruthers, formerly general manager for that company, in which he is charged with the embezzlement of monies, was again called in the Municipal Court of Chicago Tuesday, but was again continued, this time, for three weeks, upon motion of the prosecution.

Frank Tammen Purchaser.
Colorado Springs, Col., Dec. 20.
Henry Lubelski has sold all of his interest in the Empire Amusement company to Dewitt C. Weber and Frank Tammen, of Denver. In the future the Empire Amusement company theaters will be a part of the Majestic circuit.—STARK.

Crusade Against Pictures.
New York, Dec. 21.
Several times within the past few weeks there have been arrests and threats of closing up the moving picture houses in this city upon one pretext or another. Several managers were arrested today for permitting children under age to see their shows without a parent or guardian. The crusade is believed to be inspired by rival amusement interests, and it is unquestionably one-sided.—WALTER.

Pat Casey, the New York booking agent, was in Chicago on Tuesday, en route to his home town after a week's tour of the middle west. Regarding general conditions in the east, Mr. Casey said to a representative of THE SHOW WORLD:

"Conditions are not any too good. There is a scarcity of attendance in the smaller houses, and though we have given very good shows the situation has been very bad since election.

"The small picture shows, playing a few vaudeville acts and exhibiting moving pictures, with an admission of ten cents, are making money. I believe that conditions were much better before election than they have been since.

"I am now booking over 500 big acts and find that it is always easier to book a good act than an average one. There is plenty of work for all good acts, and I can take care of as many more as I can get.

"A good, clean comedy act is the most satisfactory, and it is hard to get. When a vaudeville artist makes a hit in such an act he is usually taken into a musical comedy and featured. For instance, look at the Follies of 1908, which is playing to capacity. Nearly everybody in that show is a former vaudeville performer.

"I think that in another season there will be two branches in vaudeville. The smaller houses will control and absorb a certain line of acts, and the larger houses will have to go even further than they have to get big drawing features.

It is becoming costlier and costlier, as the public demands extraordinary headline attractions.

"When the combination was formed the general opinion prevailed that salaries would be reduced, but the fact is that a good act can command more money today than ever in the history of vaudeville, notwithstanding the financial condition of the country. The business has been put on a higher plane, and is conducted by men of brains and financial stability, and not by fly-by-night promoters. The old joke of actors walking the ties exists in the humorous column of the papers only."

Regarding the effect of moving pictures upon vaudeville, Mr. Casey said:

"I believe that moving pictures have done much to educate the masses to vaudeville. Moving pictures today occupy the position of variety twenty years ago. Furthermore, they appeal to many, especially the foreign element, who would not understand an act, and are delighted with the pantomime in moving pictures."

The Xmas Variety.

THE SHOW WORLD begs to acknowledge the receipt of the big Xmas number of Variety and to extend congratulations to its staff. As an evidence of the high position which Variety holds in the esteem of the entire vaudeville profession, the number is a monumental testimonial.

Sioux City Has Trouble.

Wehster City, Iowa, Dec. 23.
Sioux City is slated for a theater war. When O. D. Woodward of Kansas City and Omaha went there this week to renew his lease on the New Grand theater, he found that the house had been sold to W. L. Montgomery, cashier of the First National bank, and another party, unnamed. Montgomery offered to sell to Woodward for \$100,000 or to lease for \$9,000 a year. This was \$5,000 more than Woodward had been paying and he refused the offer. Woodward has an agreement with Klaw & Erlanger for bookings and declares he will remain in the theater business in Sioux City. "I have the bookings, Montgomery has the house," says he, "we'll see what happens."—GEO. C. TUCKER.

Rumsey Succeeds Karm.

Springfield, Ill., Dec. 23.
Earl J. Karm, manager of the Majestic theater since that playhouse was opened a year ago last August, has resigned his position. He is succeeded by C. H. Rumsey, late manager of the Majestic theater in Peoria. Mr. Karm has made no definite plans for the future, but will enter theatrical work either in Seattle or New York City, probably the former. Mr. Rumsey had been in Peoria only twelve weeks, having been sent there from the general offices in New York City. He is a protege of George Nicolai and the change in the management of the Peoria house ended in his being sent to this city.

Musicians Elect Officers.

The annual election of officers of the Chicago branch of the American Musicians' Union, Monday night, resulted in the selection of the following executives: Robert Lundquist, president; A. Malek, vice-president; R. W. Starr, recording secretary; A. L. Schramm, financial secretary; A. Bingle, treasurer. The Chicago branch has a membership of 1,800 while that of the musicians' national organization has 35,000 members.

VARIOUS VAGARIES OF VAUDEVILLE VOGUE

Carre & Carre will open on the Paul Goudron time the first week in January. Roger Linhof sends Christmas greetings to THE SHOW WORLD from Philadelphia.

Maggie Cline, who has been seriously ill for some time, is reported much better.

Holden, the magician, will take a vaudeville show on the road early in January.

The Southern Amusement Company has opened a new vaudeville theater at Athens, Ga.

W. F. Taylor is offering vaudeville in addition to moving pictures at Fairyland at Athens, Ga.

Florence Bindley, failing to meet with success in the combination houses, will go into vaudeville.

Frederick V. Bowers is credited with scoring the greatest success of any vaudeville artist yet to visit Fargo, N. D.

Maude Morris is appearing in a singing act over the William Morris time. She was at the Lyric in Newark, N. J., last week.

William Rath of Rath, Severn & Company, left Chicago last Saturday for New York, where he goes to frame up another vaudeville act.

Conroy, LeMaire & Company are at Cook's at Rochester, N. Y., next week and will be at Poli's at Springfield, Mass., week of Jan. 4.

Kohler & Adams' new musical act is said to be the feature of the bill at the Crescent theater at Bonham, Texas, this week.

Blanche Wayne made her initial bow in vaudeville at the Majestic in Little Rock, Dec. 7, and played her home city of Fort Worth, Texas, last week.

Julian Mitchell and Louis Werba are now working on an act to be known as The Dance Queen, which will present the various styles of dancing.

When Billy Carter reached the age of 74 recently, Alf Wilton handed him a bunch of contracts which was a very much appreciated present. He is at Young's Pier in Atlantic City this week.

Paul Goudron is now booking the Stone opera house at Flint, Mich., which is managed by Albert C. Pegg and the Majestic at Waterloo, Iowa, managed by Lolo Heiber.

The Nichols Sisters presented their new act by Neil O'Brien at Syracuse this week and it is reported to be a success. The Sisters have a fine opportunity and make the most of it.

Drucie and Carolyn Gilmore, who appear in vaudeville as the Delmore Sisters, are daughters of the Gilmore who formerly ran the old zoo in Indianapolis, Ind.

Rush and Rish, who have recently purchased the opera house at Brownsville, Pa., have made arrangements with the Polack Theatrical Exchange to do their exclusive booking for the season 1908-1909.

The opening bill of vaudeville at the Hilland theater, Pittsburg, for week of Dec. 21, consists of the Great Nello, assisted by Madame Nello, Clotilde and Montrese, the Wonderful Milfair, Gramlick and Hall, Montague and Duncan, Chatham Sisters, Bert Bacon and Adrian Emmett.

Vaudeville was discontinued very suddenly last week at the Bijou in Menominee, Wis., and the lease of the theater which was held by L. Wise for the Dan-

forth-Campbell company, was turned over to Joseph Winninger, who will open a stock company.

Hamlin and Lyle have renewed their partnership after two years' separation and broke in their new act at the Castle, in Bloomington, Ill. They are now in the south for a ten weeks' tour of the Hoddkins line.

Beulah Land, who recently appeared on the Sullivan & Considine circuit, is convalescing from an operation for appendicitis. Several professional friends waited in the ante-room of St. Elizabeth's hospital while Miss Land was under the anaesthetic.

Miss Blanche Ring is the latest musical comedy star to be lured into vaudeville. She is at present on tour with Joe Weber's company, but will go on the variety stage late in January, appearing at the Colonial theater with new songs which are being written for her.

I. J. Polack, who has been the New York manager of the Independent Booking office and Mozart circuit, has resigned and has become affiliated with Dave Lewis. Their offices are located in the Gaiety theater building, 46th and Broadway, New York. They are the eastern representatives of the Polack Theatrical Exchange of Pittsburg, Pa.

Walter Stanton Jr. and Boh Sandberg, who have been doing a comedy act over association time since last May, are taking a well earned rest at holiday time and will reopen Jan. 4. Mr. Stanton went to New York to spend Christmas and Mr. Sandberg remained in Chicago.

Daisy Leon, of Nearly a Hero, received an offer to go to England with Joe Hart's Polly Pickle's Pets, but the letter was sent to Kansas City instead of St. Louis and she did not receive it in time to reach New York when the boat sailed. She will remain with Sam Bernard for the rest of the season.

Mlle. Heloise, who is on the Orpheum circuit and is appearing this week in Iowa, is the granddaughter of Francisco, the well known French showman, who has often been styled the "Barnum of Europe." Aside from her gymnastic accomplishments, Mlle. Heloise is a skillful dancer and comedienne.

The Hilland theater of Pittsburg, which for some time past has been devoted to burlesque and vaudeville, inaugurated a new policy this week, consisting of high class vaudeville. Mr. Charles H. Gramlick continues as manager. H. R. Polack of the Polack Theatrical Exchange has the exclusive booking.

Russell & DaVerne were forced to cancel their time with the V. V. M. A. on account of Lide Da Verne's illness, but Mr. Da Verne will likely get another partner or go out alone. Miss Da Verne is at Clinton, Iowa. The team will be with the Hagenbeck and Wallace circus again next summer.

Prof. Cassell's vaudeville company, which was dated at the Armory opera house in Webster City, Iowa, for three days recently went broke and the performers were unable to leave the city, with the exception of Prof. and Mrs. Cassell. A benefit was given the unfortunate and they left Webster City for Des Moines and Chicago.

Will Bradley is taking out a big act under the direction of Jake Sternad which will probably open Dec. 28. Rehearsals are being held now and such splendid voices have seldom been heard

in vaudeville. The act will be known as The Wayfarers. Will Bradley will have the principal role. Henry Macaulay is leading tenor, Willie O'Brien is tenor, Edith Bradley and Edith Bernard sopranos and Kathryn Hobert, contralto. The act will be beautifully costumed and will have special scenery.

Clark & Turner are sending out a neat card of Christmas greetings.

Jake Rosenthal, of the Bijou at Dubuque, Iowa, entertained the inmates of the insane asylum with a moving picture show last Sunday. He took 15,000 feet of film along and it embraced a great variety of pictures. Following the performance an especially good dinner was given the insane by the hospital staff.

Joe Rosenthal got indignant when a one night stand manager refused to play The Boston Belles because the agent was foolish enough to tell him about the Salome dance. The Boston Belles have played one night stands in the middle west for some time and this dance has always proved a feature.

Bert Wiggins joined The Runaway Girls last week.

Fred Irwin's burlesques have original music and original ideas.

Viola Sheldon is to appear in light opera next season.

Lulu Joslyn, a chorus girl with Rose Sydel London Belles, was taken to a hospital during the engagement in Chicago last week and will undergo an operation for appendicitis.

Jack Sydel was presented with a diamond locket last week by his sister Rose Sydel. It contains 24 stones, weighing more than three carats.

The Campbell-Drew amusement company's Avenue Girls will be at the Folly theater in Chicago week of Dec. 28.

There has not been a change made in the roster of the Rose Sydel London Belles so far this season.

Dan F. McCoy, of Denver, ran down to Colorado Springs recently, to look up a site for a vaudeville theater.

Jefferson de Angells will open in vaudeville at the Colonial in New York, Jan. 4.

Mabel Hite and Mike Donlin come to the Majestic on Jan. 11.

Estelle Chapin and Edith Edmonston, chorus members in the song show, The Honeymooners, will appear next season in vaudeville, singing selections from four different grand operas.

Leipzig's real name is Nate Leipziger, and he was formerly an optician in Detroit.

Irene Stevenson, known on the stage as one of the Petit Family, recently paid a visit to her brother in Cincinnati. She was en route East to open the season.

Bessie Clayton will play four weeks for M. S. Bentham.

William T. Grover has charge of the American music hall in New York for William Morris.

Manley & Sterling will lay off next week and spend the holiday time in Chicago.

Hannah Brothers & Co., are laying off in Chicago this week, having just completed a trip over the Sullivan & Considine circuit, where the act was spoken of as the best dressed seen in a long time. Anna Metzger is the "company," and she wears some especially beautiful gowns.

The Eddy Family was at the Orpheum in Evansville, Ind., last week, doing the same act which made so good with the Ringling Brothers Show for five seasons.

George H. Adams is back with the Alpha Trio after a long illness, and is as good as new. The Hoop Rollers, as the act is known, is going over the Western vaudeville time.

At Sid Euson's week of Dec. 13 the men at the front of the house would gather inside at almost every performance to see Frank L. Wakefield's portrayal of a dope fiend in one of the burlesques of the Golden Crooks. Mr. Wakefield's dope fiend differs a great deal from Lew Kelley's, recently seen at the Great Northern with the Ward & Vokes show, but both are good. Wakefield snuffs the coke off his hand and shoots the gun in his arm that the audience may be certain he is a dope fiend. Kelley's actions and his dreams which he discloses at every opportunity makes his character known to the audience without so forcibly calling attention to the nature of the act he is giving.

Billy Jackson, an ex-stage manager at the Academy and various Chicago stock houses, was given a benefit at the Columbia theater in Chicago Dec. 18 and between \$100 and \$150 was realized. Manager W. P. Shaver donated the theater and in addition to the regular show four feature acts volunteered their services: The Ziegler Trio, Little Crickett, The Newsboys' Trio and Florine, the magician. The regular bill at that house last week consisted of: Lorent Trio, Tierney Trio, Cook, Boyd & Oaks, Mlle. Lacarroll, Billy Earthquake and The Daltos. The moving picture given at the benefit was The Voice of the Dead and it proved one of the hits of the program.

What Englebreth Says.

Geo. W. Englebreth, manager of the Coney Island Company of Cincinnati, writes:—"I consider your Xmas, 1908, issue the brightest, newsiest ever printed in the past fifteen years. May the good work continue, and long live THE SHOW WORLD."

Actor Bitten By Dog.

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 23.
Charles Del Vecchio, a member of the In at the Finish company, was bitten by a dog at Rochester last week but insisted upon playing the Syracuse engagement, at the conclusion of which he left hurriedly for New York to take the Pasteur treatment. Doctors claim his case is serious.

Insisted on Contract.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 24.
The Neill-Morris stock company has closed its engagement at Albough's theater, and will leave shortly for Winnipeg, where a prior engagement calls the organization.

The company was engaged for Baltimore for four weeks, with the privilege of extending the contract, but Manager Walker, of the Winnipeg theater, refused to release Messrs. Neill and Morris, and they will, therefore, be forced to leave Baltimore for that city.

In Old Kentucky advertised for super last week and there were so many applications that it was almost impossible for the theater attaches to get through the crowd. The majority of the aspirants are said to have been actors who are needy.

PLAYS AND PERSONS IN PARAGRAPH

Alice Neilsen has filed a petition in bankruptcy.

In at the Finish will close in Philadelphia, Jan. 9.

Louise Gunning says a singer must be happy to sing well.

The Devil was seen for the first time in Kansas City last week.

Blanche Walsh has purchased an estate in Virginia, paying \$60,000 in cash.

Charles H. Hoyt wrote seventeen farces and only two of them were failures.

Jane Loras has retired from the stage for the winter months owing to illness.

Morning, Noon and Night ended its tour at Baltimore last Saturday night.

It is calculated that three hundred companies rested the week before Christmas.

George Ade and Ort C. Wells, left New York last week for a trip around the world.

Harry Beresford opened at Annapolis, Md., on Christmas day in Who's Your Friend.

Grace Laue spent last week at French Lick Springs, as the Nearly a Hero company laid off.

John H. Cassidy, actor, manager and producer, has heavy holdings in real estate in Spokane, Wash.

The Man of the Hour holds the record for newspaper publicity in Cleveland and paid in full comes second.

Nellie Fillmore is with The Light of Tomorrow, which opens at New Brunswick, N. J., Christmas day.

Leo Dietrichstein was poisoned by eating oysters at Cleveland last week and had to lay off a day or two.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Erlanger were at Hamilton, Ohio, Sunday night for the premier of the Counsel for the Defense.

The Revelation is laying off this week in Chicago and will play a few one-night stands into Cleveland, Ohio, when it reopens.

Eleanor Robson made her first appearance in The Dawn of Tomorrow at Norfolk last Friday night. It is credited with success.

James K. Hackett is traveling in his own private car, "Iolanthe," during his southern tour and is accompanied by his mother.

J. L. Veronec says that Lillian Mortimer makes a great deal more money than most leading women who play the high-class houses.

David Belasco says it was really a shame that Edwin Booth's makeup box brought so little when sold at auction. Belasco bought it.

Vera Michelena is interested in ten-cent theaters at Wheeling, W. Va., and Hamilton, Ohio. She expects to be a syndicate some day.

Four men remained up all night to be at the head of the line when The Merry Widow tickets were placed on sale at Fort Worth, Texas.

Marie Earl, one of the principal broilers with The American Idea has been offered a soubrette role in The Honey-mooners for next season.

Ada Lewis spent the week of Dec. 15 in St. Louis, as the Sam Bernard company laid off. She was entertained a great deal during the week.

George Ailiss and The Devil will move from the Belasco theater in New York on Jan. 18 to make room for Frances Starr in Eugene Walter's new play.

Ernest Charles Warde, youngest son of Frederick Warde and for several years stage manager for the late Richard Mansfield, is a member of Max Figman's support, playing The Substitute.

Joseph Coyne was given a royal reception when he resumed his role in the London production of The Merry Widow last Saturday night. The demonstration is considered really extraordinary.

Aldermen, city officials and gang politicians of Fargo, N. D., saw The Man of the Hour recently, and agreed that the play reflected conditions at that city equally as well as it does New York conditions.

Corinne gave a performance to 2,500 poor children at the Grand in Kansas City Wednesday afternoon in the way of a Christmas gift, and the mayor of the city appointed the committee to distribute the tickets.

The Question of the Hour, by A. S. Lipman and Florence Gerard, who plays the role of Mrs. Doolittle with Nearly a Hero, is now in the hands of a Chicago producing firm. The play will likely have an early production.

May De Sousa joined A Waltz Dream at Glasgow, Scotland last Monday night and plays the part taken by Gertie Miller in the London production. Miss De Sousa made her first appearance on the stage at the Chicago opera house.

Ethel Barrymore has been saying for a long time that she was anxious to appear in musical comedy, but no definite plans to that end have been made and her friends do not anticipate seeing her in a musical tomfoolery very soon.

Hayes Greenaway, of Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch, visited his home in Danville, Ill., week before last when the show laid off because of some legal entanglement with the house the company should have played at Cincinnati.

Charles E. Gunn is now in San Francisco, having closed with the Shirley Stock company at Seattle, Wash., last Saturday night. George D. McQuarrie succeeds Mr. Gunn with the stock company, assuming the position he vacated six months ago.

Eddie Harris, who was with Lincoln J.

Carter's In at the Finish until he was obliged to lay off at St. Joseph, Mo., to undergo an operation, arrived in Chicago Monday morning, having completely recovered. He was in a St. Joseph hospital for five weeks.

After three years of traveling with Little Johnny Jones and other companies in which she did not get near her home at Bridgeport, Conn., Emma Cook appeared in that city last week in vaudeville and was given a welcome reception by her many friends.

Helen Bertram has quite the stage and will devote herself to her daughter, who is now seventeen years of age. She is anxious to have a home and be free from the cares of traveling. It is barely possible that she will return to her former avocation of teaching.

Gladys Hanson, leading woman with E. H. Sothorn, lives in Atlanta, and when the company appeared at the Grand recently the audience would not be satisfied until Miss Hanson took a curtain call all by herself. Mr. Sothorn was graciously generous and evidently gratified.

Pauline Perry, the charming young understudy of Rosemary Glosz, has appeared as Sonia in The Merry Widow several times in Texas during Miss Glosz's indisposition. Miss Perry is the recipient

A fire which threatened the complete destruction of the scenic effects of James K. Hackett's Prisoner of Zenda, while en route from Fayetteville to Wilmington, N. C., did not cause the company to lose a single performance. The company was traveling in a four-car special and the baggage car took fire while the train was in motion. The fire is thought to have started from the gas lighting arrangement. A special stop was made at Evergreen station and the flames extinguished.

Peggy Perry, who shot herself in her room at 2616 Indiana avenue, Chicago, was reported at Mercy hospital as resting easy. A slight chance is now held out by the physicians for her recovery. The police are satisfied that the shooting was the result of an accident due to the girl carelessly handling her revolver and claim to have everything that appeared mysterious cleared up. They say Miss Perry (whose real name is Margaret Wiswell) and Elizabeth Jahn, her roommate, were alone in the room at the time and that the young men with whom they had spent Friday evening were not present.

There are things happening in the show business which are encouraging. The management of The Old Homestead is so pleased with business so far this

Grace George will produce The Intruder by Thompson Buchanan at Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 7.

Tony Duffy, formerly with The Top of the World, is now managing Edith Taliferro in Polly of the Circus.

The Theatrical Managers' Association of New York will hold its fourth annual banquet on Jan. 15 at the Hotel Astor.

J. Palmer Collins is playing the part of the servant in The Devil at the Belasco theater, where he has been all season.

W. A. Whitecar retired from the cast of The Mummy and the Humming Bird recently. He has been engaged by Clay T. Vance to star in Married for Money.

The Maxine Elliott theater in New York will be opened Dec. 30. Miss Elliott will produce the three act comedy, The Chaperone, by Marion Fairfax.

Holden Brothers Bunco from Arizona closed at Portland, Ore., last Saturday. Three of the members of the company were transferred to The Angel and the Ox.

Word has just been received of the death of Grace Ellwood which occurred last spring in Daville Junction, Maine. The burial took place in Mount View cemetery, Hoborne, last spring.

The Goddess of Reason was given its first production at the Majestic in Boston last Monday night. The drama is by Mary Johnstone and is produced by Julia Marlowe, who is now an actress-manager.

Charles Clary, who has been in Baltimore with the Neill-Morris stock company, left with the company last week for Winnipeg where the company is to open at the Walker theater after the holidays.

New York is in its glory now that a couple of suggestive shows are on the boards. The Queen of Moulin Rouge and Miss Innocence are just about the limit as far as naughtiness is concerned, and the gay old boys along the White Way are walking along more lively these days.

E. J. Kilpatrick, who has been traveling abroad for some years and who is now located in Sydney, Australia, writes from that place under date of November 22, and sends the following New Year's greetings: "That a happy and successful year is in store for you and yours, is the sincere wish of E. J. Kilpatrick."

As an evidence of the fact that it takes money to build new theaters it is pointed out that the promoters of the Garden theater in Chicago have already sunk \$168,000 in that venture for improvements, scenic investitures, etc. Those back of the project have always been and yet are confident of success.

Alma Youlin, one of the trio of pretty prima donnas in The Honeymoon Trail, is said to have given up a grand opera career when she signed to appear in that musical comedy. In Cavaleria Rusticana she sang the role of Santuzza. She has also sung in Carmen, Il Trovatore, and has also carried several of the Wagner roles.

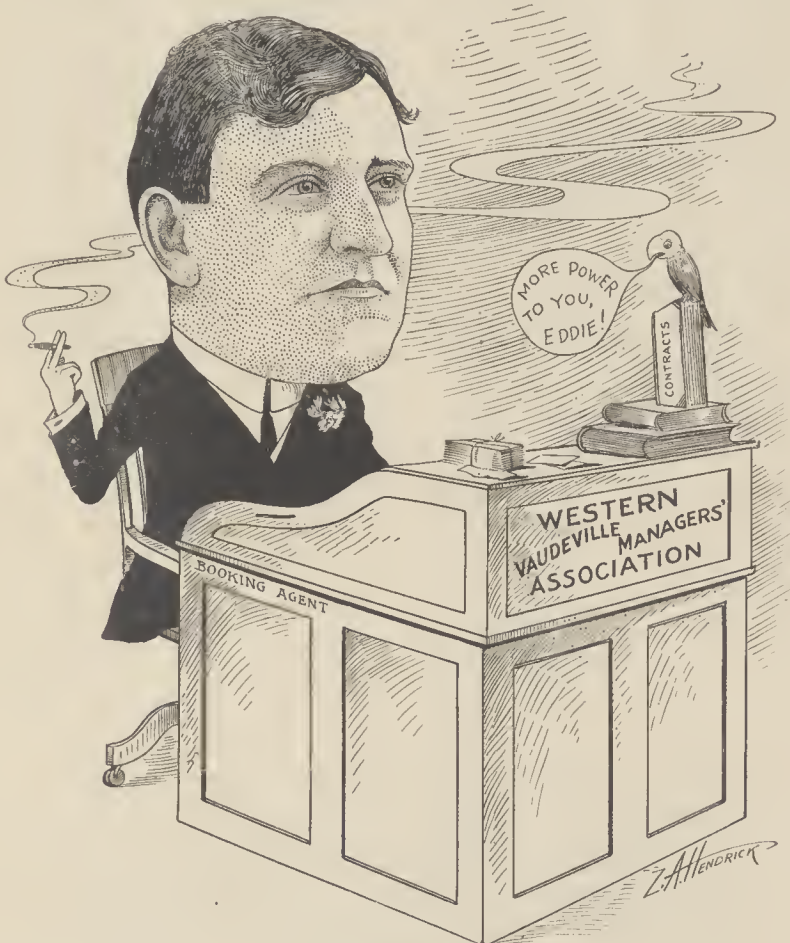
A single performance of Ticey was given at the Liberty theater in New York last Friday afternoon for charity. The play was produced at the Chicago opera house and was seen at one or two other points before the company was closed. Mary Ryan played her original role at this special performance, and many of the cast seen in Chicago were also secured.

Charles C. Coon, aged 70, died in Chicago Dec. 18 of heart failure and was buried Dec. 20 by the G. A. R. of which he was a member, having served as lieutenant with a New York regiment. For many years, beginning with 1864, Mr. Coon was an actor and was associated with Katy Putnam and many other good companies. He was never married.

Henry B. Harris has engaged Herbert Corthell, Rosalind Coghlan, Diana Huneker, James O'Neill Jr., Buck Sheffer, William Robert Daly, Robert Dudley, Marion Stephens, Lawrence Sheehan, Emmett Shackelford, Daniel Jarrett, William Schroeder, Viola Savoy and Thomas Tobin for the touring company of James Forbes' comedy The Traveling Salesman, which opened on Christmas day at Trenton, N. J.

The new Hurlitz & Seamon stock companies for the Metropolis and Yorkville theaters in New York include Maquette Dwight, George A. Harway, Norma Brown, Martha Conway, Anna Lloyd, John Kearney, Tony Hart Jr., Gilbert Fitzgerald, George H. Richetts and Dan Marble for the musical company and Mabel Montgomery, Isabel Goodwin, Irma Perry, May McCabe, Jack Webster, Edward Emery, J. P. Lockney, William Arnold and William Stuart for the dramatic organization.

The Advance Agent, a neat little volume of experiences, from the pen of Myles McCarthy, is now being placed upon the market by the Excelsior Publishing House of New York. From cover to cover the volume should prove highly interesting not only to the knights of the road, but to professionals generally, giving, as it does, the experiences of one of their kind. The tales and anecdotes run the gamut from grave to gay and will afford excellent entertainment. Mr. McCarthy is a Friar and his brothers of that good monkish order will no doubt read his book with particular interest. The volume is cleverly illustrated by J. H. Appleton.



EDWARD C. HAYMAN

of most flattering notices from press and public alike and they are said to be well deserved.

C. H. Broomfield, property man with The Old Homestead, which is in Cincinnati this week, is one of the best liked and most respected men engaged in that work. There has never been a whisper of suspicion connected with his work and one time in the west he is said to have been introduced as the "only honest property man in the business."

Mighty few \$1.50 tickets found their way into the ticket box when Hortense Neilsen played Hedda Gabler at San Antonio, Texas, recently. The billboards had advertised Mrs. Dane's Defense, the press notices announced A Doll's House, but the manager explained that owing to an actor leaving the company suddenly Hedda Gabler had to be substituted.

A benefit performance for the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital was given at the Tulane theater in New Orleans by The Right of Way company, with Theodore Roberts and Guy Standing. The prices were advanced for the performance from 25 to 50 per cent, but a large crowd assembled nevertheless. The charity performance was a great financial success.

The double quartette in The Old Homestead consists of Gus Kammerlee, Fred Clare, Roy Purbanke, Frank Cochran, Jess Calkins, Harry Webster, Harry Jaeger and Charles Ingoldsby and their singing is one of the most enjoyed features of the play. Gus Kammerlee has been with The Old Homestead for 23 years and the majority of the singers have had many years with the company. Only two of them are new this season.

season that instead of closing Feb. 28, as was originally intended, the company will remain on the road ten weeks longer. Mr. Thompson only appears at New York, Chicago and Boston nowadays and then seldom plays all of the show. There was hardly a night during the recent engagement at McVickers at Chicago when William Lawrence, his understudy, did not take the part in the third act where the role requires some tumbling which does not agree with a man of Mr. Thompson's years. The audience never knows when Mr. Lawrence takes Mr. Thompson's place.

Manager Augustus Pitou started for his winter home at Hobe Sound, Fla., last week. As Chauncey Olcott does not act during Lent, he will spend that time in Florida as guest of Manager Pitou.

G. A. Ackermann arrived in Chicago Wednesday morning en route from New York to Kansas City, and when seen at the new office of Ackermann & Quigley in Chicago, stated that from the preparations being made in the east he felt certain that managers generally looked for business to pick up wonderfully with the coming of the new year.

He says it is a toss up which had the longest lines in New York, the Hippodrome, Maude Adams or grand opera. He states that Joseph M. Gaites' The Three Twins was one of the favorite shows on Broadway and regretted to hear of the fire which gutted the playhouse on Tuesday night. A Gentleman from Mississippi, The Blue Mouse, and The Man from Home are doing fine, according to Mr. Ackermann, and The Queen of the Moulin Rouge, and Miss Innocence are awakening plenty of interest.

REPERTOIRE NOTES

June Agnott is leading lady of one of the Earl Burgess stock companies.

Glenn F. Chase, of Chase-Lister, sends a card wishing this paper a merry Christmas.

Eileen Rosar is playing the leading feminine roles with the Rosar-Mason company.

Charles K. Champlin gave away eight gold pieces on Saturday night at Harmanus Bleeker hall in Albany, N. Y.

Dick Ferris has taken the management of Roy Knabenshue and is arranging for air ship flights in the south and east.

East Lynne, Camille and Sapho don't seem to ever lose their drawing power if given a fair production.

The American Stock Company presents an old play, Saved, or A Wife's Peril, under the title of The Temptation of a Bride.

The Selden-Stetson company is said to have gotten about \$200 on three nights recently at Millersburg, Ohio, and Jungle Tom, a musical comedy, got about \$130.

Jack Campbell, the well-known advance agent, has closed with the Grace Hayward company and is now at his home at Faribault, Minn.

The Family theater at Sandusky is to open with Oscar F. Cook's own repertoire show presenting stock productions. Mr. Cook is lessee of the house.

Kenneth H. Merrill joined the Keves Sisters stock company at Urichsville, Ohio, last week and is playing the heavies in all of their bills.

Business was better for the Earl Burgess company on Dec. 17 at Fairmont, W. Va., than on the "opening" night. The show broke the records for attendance on the week.

Flora Dorset is reported to have been seeking funds for the reorganization of the Flora Dorset company which broke up recently owing to the manager absconding with the receipts, according to reports.

Fair weeks were generally bad for repertoire companies last fall. A prominent manager, who controls two companies, says his business was from \$200 to \$300 less on the fair dates this fall than it had been in the same towns in the past.

The Sherman Stock Company, Matt Kussell, manager, has been playing at the Crescent in Champaign, Ill., for the past two weeks, with very good business, according to W. H. Hindman, this paper's correspondent at that point.

The Hickman-Bessey company had "ladies free" nights for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the Henry Boyle theater at Fond du Lac, Wis., when it was only to appear for a four nights' stay. The company is now laying off but will reopen at Fond du Lac, Dec. 26.

"Buster," the singing dog with Keyes Sisters stock company, who has been one of the features of the vaudeville specialties this season, lost an eye while at Belaire, Ohio, during their engagement there Thanksgiving week. He is back now doing his regular stunt on the opening night.

During the engagement of the Grace Hayward company at Rockford, Ill., last week, a Christmas tree for the little folks was a feature of one of the matinees. A present for each child who attended the show was hung on the tree, and one of the members of the company impersonated Santa Claus and acted as distributor.

One of the cleverest specialties ever seen in Waukegan, Ill., was witnessed by patrons of the Schwartz theater Saturday, Dec. 12, between the acts of A Girl of the Hills, which was presented by North Brothers, comedians. Arnold B. Wurnell was the artist referred to, and his buck and wing dance on roller skates was really the hit of the evening. Business on Saturday night was only fair.

LAURETTA TAYLOR IN COSTUME OF LEAVES.

Buffalo Chief of Police Made Her Wear More Clothes and Houses Are Packed.

Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 18.

Lauretta Taylor, the star of Yosemite, at the Teck theater this week, appeared in such scant attire in the last act of the play at the opening performance that Police Inspector Martin, Capt. Gilligan and two detectives were shocked.

Inspector Martin ordered A. W. Davis, manager of the show, to appear before Chief Regan with Miss Taylor. The inspector also took possession of several photographs of Miss Taylor found in the theater lobby which show her in her stage costume.

"It's a hard question to say whether this lack of attire is within the bounds of decency," said Inspector Martin. "I don't think the law is being violated, but we shall probably ask Miss Taylor to wear more clothes."

Since the show was put on here many complaints have come to the police.

There is no suggestion of the immoral unless the last scene may be construed as such. Here Miss Taylor appears as Lone Star, a child of the wilderness, with only leaves for a covering. She has been living in a cave for ten years and is suddenly found by her lover.

Many in the audience caught their breath when Miss Taylor emerged from her cave.

As a result of the investigation Chief of Police Regan later ordered Miss Taylor to wear more clothes. Another result was that Manager Oshei of the theater has been having packed houses during the engagement.—McGUIRE.

PRESS AGENT'S CHRISTMAS

By HARRY J. BRYAN.

A whistle's scream—An engine's roar—A hiss of steam—A sudden jar. The night express had arrived.

"On time to a hair," said the driver as he dropped from the great iron monster to the platform, torch and oil can in hand. "Jist give her a little grease." This to his fireman who was standing in the gang-way. "You know it's Christmas eve and we've gotta git in on time this run or spoil the happiness of the wives an' little ones."

"You bet," heartily answered the fireman, "You give her the oil can and I'll do the feedin'." The great door of the furnace flew wide and a stream of light shot through the night and the song of the coal scoop told that Jim was making good. The pause at the station was long enough only to permit the arrivals to depart from the train, all in a hurry and a scurry to reach the fireside of the home that would shelter them within the sacred circle described by the paternal arms of Mother and Father, and as they hastened away, each one bent toward a welcoming and waiting fireside.

Now a tired and sleepy drummer, worn and exhausted from a three months' trip, who had drawn upon nature to the fullest extent to cover his territory that he might steal the time of the Yuletide with his cherished wife and little ones, only a few moments more and he will hold the loved ones close to his heart.

"All-a-board!" A lantern flashed in the murky darkness and the long snaky train took up its journey leaving upon the platform a lonely traveler, who, looking steadily after the fading green lights quietly remarked, as he picked up his traveling bag: "Well, this is a fine Christmas!" And Jack Manton, press agent for a well known Chicago theatrical firm, made his way toward a wait-

—the itinerant, the unhappy wanderer, fell to searching the familiar figure that sat so cold and placid before him.

"Mr. Adams, I thank you; you have poured out a little milk of human kindness that will never be forgotten; I will gladly accept your kind invitation to a Christmas dinner."

And his eyes grew fixed upon the other who suddenly wheeled about in his desk chair, with the knowing twinkle in his eye flashing forth his genuine enjoyment.

"You are quite welcome, my poor chap, for I fully appreciate what it is to be away from home and friends on a day like this. I remember when I was a boy, I had a friend who enjoyed all the comforts of a splendid home, while I was but the son of a poor mechanic; my father fell ill a few days before Christmas and consequently the income ceased." Tears welled in his eyes and he continued in a broken voice—"And dear old mother and us little ones, were without a crust upon that day, and as I stood upon the street striving to find some means by which I might furnish a loaf of bread to the suffering ones at home, a little friend came running with his face beaming with all the pleasure of the happy Christmas that was his happy fortune. 'Why, what's the matter, Billy?' he asked, placing his armful of presents upon the door step."

And here the manager's voice broke in the full flood of the long ago.

The two men stood facing each other and the kindred souls began to weld. Then the manager continued, after his brief emotion: "And my little friend, by a prayer to his mother, furnished the Christmas dinner to the suffering and forgotten ones that were the only poor folks in a prosperous community."

OUR CINCINNATI OFFICE

Correspondent To Erect the Largest Theatrical Photograph Gallery in the World.

On and after February first, Clarence E. Runey, our correspondent at Cincinnati, will have the distinction of owning and operating the largest theatrical photograph gallery in America, occupying an entire building, one hundred feet square. The staging will be located in the center of the north end and will have drops the same as any large stage. A special, extra large skylight is being built, in a specially constructed forty-foot dome.

The largest company on the road can be photographed in full, at one sitting, from the largest camera in America, being built especially for this work. Special electric equipments will be installed for illusion and device work. Aerial, trapeze, bicycle acts, performing animals and other difficult feats will be photographed in the one fifteen-hundredth part of one second, insuring perfect reproductions.

This gallery will be the most modern and improved of all theatrical galleries, equipped with the latest photographic devices, dressing rooms and stage settings. The stage will be constructed to give either water, land or aerial scenes of every description.

This will be the new Cincinnati home of THE SHOW WORLD, opening on New Year's Eve. New Underwood and Remington typewriters, with desks and telephone service, will be installed for the free use of SHOW WORLD readers, and the profession of entertainment is cordially invited to have their mail addressed here and make this their headquarters during their stay in the Queen City.

ing bus, murmuring as he went: "No dear old mother to receive me with wide-open arms; no wife to kiss the cold lips—no child to cry 'Merry Christmas, papa.'" And so the handsome fellow mused until the bus had arrived at the leading hotel.

"A hell of a Christmas this will be for me," he growled as he passed into the office of the one-night stand hotel. Approaching the desk he was met with such cordiality and the positive courtesy, he mentally resolved that, if the room and meals were as good as the atmosphere of the place pretended, perhaps it wouldn't be so bad after all.

A good night's rest in a well appointed modern bed; a hasty bath and a delightful breakfast, and the agent was on his way to business, keen and alive to every proposition that would tend to better the business for his attraction's engagement the coming New Year's date.

Once at the theater he did not hesitate to make himself known to the resident manager, who extended the Christmas greetings and then proceeded with the usual routine of business, which was soon concluded.

"Where will you take dinner?" questioned the manager, and the tell-tale twinkle in his eye bespoke a coming event that had a tendency to enlist the close attention of the agent.

"At the hotel, of course," said the gent. "A fellow like me without friends or relatives must appeal to the public for hospitality on a day like this."

"That's true," exclaimed the manager. "The public, like an ungrateful ass, brays at all times, either his pleasure in the enjoyment of a full meal, or stubbornly refuses to be fed the thing that is best for him, and yet I am one of the despised public, and worse, I am a local manager, and yet withal I am human. I realize that you are perhaps here this day of all days without friends, and if you will do me the honor to eat your Christmas dinner with my wife and the little ones you will be quite welcome."

He turned quietly to some notes which lay upon his desk, and the agent fancied he caught a ring of significance in his movement.

A moment of absolute stillness upon the part of both the manager and agent

The press agent stood in a state of stupefaction for the moment only, then with honest tears of friendship streaming down his face he reached for the manager's hand, and thus were the two boyhood friends united after twenty years.

"Gee, this ain't such a bad Christmas after all!" commented the agent as he started off, arm in arm with his boyhood friend, the manager, for a good Christmas dinner and a talk of the old times.

BENTON RETURNS TO ONE NIGHT STANDS.

San Antonio Will be Seen in Smaller Cities with Author in Leading Role.

Perce R. Benton's San Antonio will take to the one-night stands after the last half of the present week at East St. Louis and Ben Stone is now ahead booming business as only he knows how.

The show opened recently for a tour of the Stair-Havlin circuit, but when Benton lost \$900 in three weeks he decided that the one-nights were good enough for him.

Mr. Benton will be seen in the leading comedy role played at the Academy by Francis Pierlot and his wife will play the lead, succeeding Florence Leslie.

New Year's will be spent at Henderson, Ky., and a desirable route through the south and southwest is being hooked.

Benton has long been a ruling factor in the tall grass and now has a one-night stand, The Cowboy's Girl, which is making money in the west.

House Dark Two Weeks.

Spartanburg, S. C., Dec. 14. The Man of the Hour will appear in this city early in January. Coming Thro' the Rye will appear at the Harris on Jan. 4. From the number of inquiries made at the box office about this play and considering that the theater has been dark for two weeks, it is predicted that they will do a fine business. This city is being billed for Miss Eleanor Robson in Richard Harding Davis's play on spiritualism, Vera, the Medium, which will appear in Greenville, S. C., on Monday, Dec. 21.—GREER.

AROUND THEATERS

Rutherford, N. C., has a new theater. Fred Gunning will manage the Orpheus theater at Chillicothe, Ohio.

Only two nights were open at Statu theater at Knoxville, Tenn., last week. P. T. Marshall has purchased the Nickelodeon theater in Newport News, Va., and has remodeled the interior.

A top gallery will be added to the Lyceum theater at Newark, N. J., without the performances being interfered with at all. Sanitary paper spittoons have been placed in the gallery of the opera house in Olean, N. Y.

It is doubtful if the new theater at Knoxville, Tenn., will be ready to open New Year's as had been announced.

Ross Forman, formerly of the Lyceum Minneapolis, is now stage manager at Auditorium in Northfield, Minn.

Business is reported to be "very good" at the nine theaters, thirty picture houses and two skating rinks in Newark, N. J.

Prices at the Family theater at Butte, Mont., are now 10 and 20 cents, as the Lulu theater prices are 10-20-30.

Harry A. Ketcham, of the Fairbank theater at Springfield, Ohio, cancelled at Rice Brothers Dec. 7, and the Casino circuit substituted Adams & Wingfield.

Tom Baker, manager of the Grand Los Angeles, Cal., celebrated a birthday recently; just what birthday he refuses to state.

Six acts are offered at the Corona theater in Cleveland, where admission is only a nickel. Herman J. Garfield is house manager.

Edward Taffe is now manager of the Reis house at Norristown, Pa., succeeding C. L. Rubin, who has gone to Canton, Ohio.

I. H. Dibble, manager of the theater at Faribault, Minn., was called to Waseca, Minn., last week by the illness of his mother.

Franklin Fox is now managing the Lyceum theater at Goshen, Ind., succeeding A. E. LeVoy, who has been transferred to Kenosha, Wis.

Performers from the Nelson, Crystal and Sipe theaters in Logansport, Ind., attended a recent social session given at the Logansport Elks.

Ben Kahn and J. Reginald MacEachern have organized a stock company to establish vaudeville houses in the south. The company will also operate parks.

W. C. Laughlin, formerly with W. A. Bell at the Vaudome in Pittsburg, Kan., has opened a moving picture show at Frontenac, a small town nearby.

B. F. Keith donated the entire receipts of the matinee at Keith's in Cleveland, Dec. 15, to the Santa Claus Association, a charitable organization of that city.

E. H. Carlisle succeeds H. L. Wall as manager of the Grand at Brookline, S. D. Mr. Walker goes to Aberdeen, D., where he has leased the Gottsch theater.

Instead of last week being the poor week of the season at Omaha, Neb., theaters, as the local managers had expected, it is said to have been one of the best weeks of the season.

Doc Lane, formerly manager of Bryan billposting plant at Youngstown, Ohio, has been appointed manager of New Majestic theater at Rochester, Pa., by the Albaughs.

D. L. Hughes, manager of the opera house at Keokuk, Iowa, attached Shubert's production of Girls for \$250,000, canceling a contract to appear at that house.

With the opening of the Lyceum at week Salt Lake has five theaters running moving picture houses running full blast. Whether the city can support this number of places of amusement is an open question, and much interest is being felt in theatrical circles as to the "survival of the fittest."

George Ade is planning to build a theater at Brooke, Ind., at which he will produce his new plays. He will have companies rehearse on his farm instead of his going to New York or Chicago, as he plans to provide board and room for the members of the companies and is likely to object if there are several weeks spent in rehearsal.

Albany, N. Y., is to have a new theater and in the central part of the city H. R. Jacobs, manager of Harmanus Bleeker hall, will become manager of the new house and it is expected that it will be ready for occupancy by October 1 of next year. Harmanus Bleeker has been leased for a term of five years from July 1 next to Felix Blei, of C. kill, N. Y. Mr. Jacobs' lease expires Jan. 30, 1909. Mr. Blei is an experienced theatrical man with small theaters at C. kill, Mechanicsville, N. Y., and Bannockton, Vt.

Mack Makes a Change.

Waukegan, Ill., Dec. 18. R. J. Mack, who has for the past five years been acting manager of the New Brothers' Comedians, severed his connection with the company here last Saturday night and left for Columbus, O., his home where he will take a much needed rest. He has several very flattering offers from New York managers but has not yet determined which one he will accept.—HENKEL.

The "Merry Widows" of Old.

There is nothing new under the sun, and although there were no matinee theaters and opera houses about the period of Waterloo were just as much disturbed by the size of the hats worn by ladies in the boxes as their descendents are today.—London "Music Hall."

MOVING PICTURE NEWS

Lexington, Ky.—Fine weather is bringing the people out on the streets and in consequence the picture shows are reaping a rich harvest.

Frankfort, Ky.—The picture houses here are getting the money now. Heise and Son, owners and managers of the Crystal state that attendance is now nearing the capacity mark each performance.

Mt. Pleasant, Ia.—Sith and Cooper have purchased and are now in possession of the Electric theater formerly owned and operated by Strawn Bros.

Richwood, O.—A. J. McDaniel is the new owner of the Star Moving Picture theater.

Atlantic, Ia.—The building at 512 Chestnut streets has been leased by R. A. Willett of Griswold and J. M. Young and will be converted into a moving picture house, to open shortly.

Marquette, Mich.—The Voelker Block is to contain a moving picture and vaudeville house under the management of Charles Crinnin who is now superintending the alterations.

Janesville, Wis.—Martin G. Curtis has bought and is now in possession of the five cent theater in South Main street.

La Belle, Mo.—A new nickelodeon will be opened here by Ed. Swinney and Ray Docter.

Crawford, Neb.—E. E. Wonder of Beatrice, Neb., will open a theatorium here as soon as alterations are completed.

Toledo, O.—Frank Burt has sold his interest in the Lyceum and Burt's moving picture houses here to E. D. Stals of Boston.

Unionville, Mo.—The new theatorium here is owned by Elson and son.

Hawarden, Ia.—P. F. McManaman is now operating the only theatorium in this city, having bought out the interests of the former owners.

Elk Point, S. Dak.—A new theatorium will be opened in the Flannery building by Hanson and Maher, of Beresford.

Sioux City, Ia.—It is authoritatively stated that Woodward and Burgess will erect a new nickelodeon here.

Lebanon, Ind.—The Olympic, a new theatorium, was opened here by Frank Lee, of Indianapolis.

Winchester, Ill.—Clyde Spencer has sold out his interest in the Lyric here to Joe and Frank Ruark; the latter are now in possession.

Richmond, Va.—The Gaiety at Third and Broad sustained a slight fire damage.

Pontiac, Ill.—A new theatorium will shortly be opened here by F. E. Rohrer.

St. Louis, Mo.—Charles Laub's Garfield Nickelodeon sustained a slight damage by fire. It is located at 2301 Cherokee street.

Baltimore, Md.—A new theatorium will be opened at 814 Light street by Jones Brothers.

Bridgeport, W. Va.—Samuel Ungerleider will open a theatorium here at an early date.

River Falls, Wis.—A syndicate composed of George and Fred Pratt, Harry Reynolds and John Lowe has bought out the interests of J. E. Hendrix in the Electric theater.

Tecumseh, Neb.—A new moving picture house will be opened here by Clifford Falen.

St. Louis, Mo.—A slight fire occurred at the Astor located at 5 North Broadway. J. M. Word is the manager.

Laurel, Del.—A new theatorium will be erected here by J. D. Marvel. It will play vaudeville.

Provo, Utah.—W. M. Barnes is now in charge of the Grand, having bought out the interests of the former owners.

Fergus Falls, Minn.—An interest in the Bijou has been sold to a Mr. McMaster of South Dakota.

Rockford, Ill.—A new theatorium to be known as the Empire will be opened in the Svea Music hall by Axel and Sam Anderson.

Moline, Ill.—The corner store of the Swedish Olive block has been rented by Henry Roberts and W. U. Adler for a theatorium.

Sparta, Wis.—H. Kurtzman has sold his interest in the electric theater to Jas. Johnson.

St. Louis, Mo.—A two-story theatorium will be erected here by S. B. Roffi and company, to cost about \$15,000.

Meridian, Ida.—Ora Nehr, of Nampa, Ida., is now associated with John Von Prosky in the electric theater here, having purchased the interest of Mr. Stone.

Sheridan, Wyo.—The Star theater with vaudeville and moving picture has opened here.

Dell Rapids, S. D.—In addition to the moving picture show at the Grand Opera house here, the Star theater and the Kinodrome theater are now vying for the moving picture patronage.

Marselles, Ill.—Manager Atwell of the Empire is remodeling that theatorium at considerable expense.

Bartlesville, Okla.—Migelonica and Abate have bought out the interests of V. J. Barnes in the Odeon theater in Second street.

Tamaqua, Pa.—Shreck and McFadden, former owners of the Lyric here, have sold their interests to Frank McKeon and E. C. Malarkey. The former hails from Girardville.

Manhattan, N. Y.—A new theatorium will be erected at the corner of Fulton and Essex streets by Jacob Cohen & Sons company.

Croswell, Mich.—A new theatorium will be opened here by D. E. Wise.

Candon, Dak.—The Star, a new nickelodeon was opened in the Beston building by Beston and Reed.

PIPE ORGAN LATEST THEATORIUM NOVELTY

V. C. Seavor, of Chicago, Pioneer Moving Picture Man Leads in a Daring Innovation.

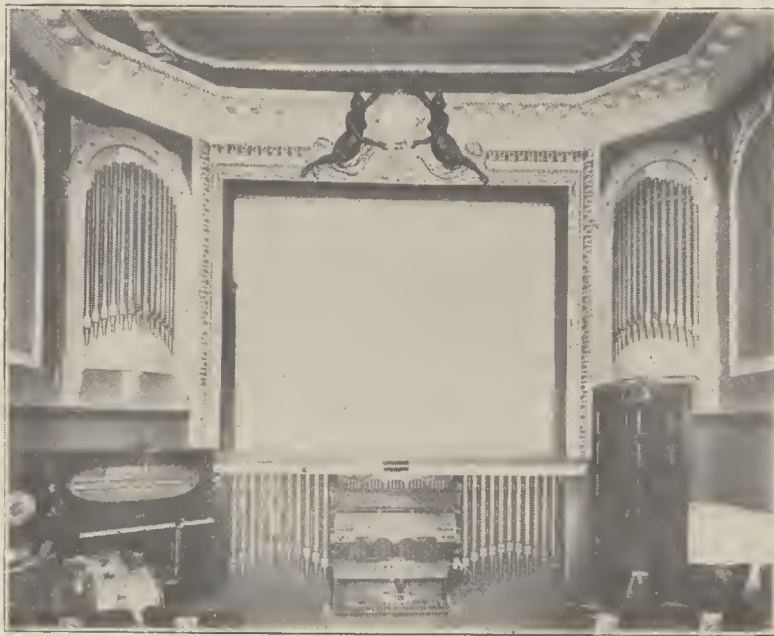
The pipe organ recently installed in the Alcazar Five Cent theater, 108 E. Madison street, Chicago, is making a great hit. This idea is original with Mr. Seavor the owner. The organ is particularly adapted to use in connection with all pictures outside of comedy. The management is also having a large organ built for his house in Peoria, Ill., which opens March 1. This theater will be known as the Princess, and is said to be the finest combination 10-cent house in the country, seating about 1,000.

V. C. Seavor also owns two other houses

Before eight o'clock the house was filled with a fashionably dressed audience, expectant for what seems to be justly termed a "revelation in talking shows."

The program was in five parts, as follows:

1. England's Daintiest Comedienne—Alice Lloyd, presenting her most recent repertoire of songs.
2. Cole & Johnson's Shoo-Fly Regiment" Song Success, Who Do You Love? Posed and sung by Collins and Harlan.
3. Bud Ross, character songs.



Photograph of the Latest Novelty for Theatoriums—a Pipe Organ Used by V. C. Seavor, in One of His Chicago Nickelodeons.

es in Peoria and Al Fresco park, located on the Illinois river. This park has always done a large business as a great many steamboats land excursionists at the piers. The Theatorium 5-cent theater, 44 State street, Chicago, also belongs to Mr. Seavor. It was the second 5-cent theater opened in the city.

The Alcazar was next opened on Madison, the first theater to install the raised floor. The Independent Film Exchange, Masonic Temple, Chicago, was originated

4. Emerson Quartette, of Land of Nod fame.

5. The Trial of Robert Emmett, and the immortal orator's eloquent speech.

The talking pictures were very lifelike and evoked the sincerest applause from the attentive audience. The program is changed twice weekly, and there is not the least doubt as to the success of this venture. Manager McFarland is to be congratulated upon the excellent order maintained and the general atmos-



The Kalem Co's Stock Company, "Roseland," Jacksonville, Fla.

by Mr. Seavor, which was the first to enter the field after the combination of exchanges were formed, and in three days the exchange had a list of 60 customers. With all this Mr. Seavor finds a little time to devote to yachting and automobiles, owning a beautiful steam yacht 80 feet long and two automobiles. The pipe organ which was installed in the above theater stands 12 feet high, and is located in the basement beneath the stage, the pipes being open in front to emit sound, or can be located behind the picture curtain.

Manager McFarland Entertains Friends. Manager W. H. McFarland, whose company has the exclusive rights for the State of Illinois, for the Cameraphone, entertained a great number of his friends by invitation last Monday night at the Cameraphone theater, 337 So. State street.

phere of ease, comfort and convenience throughout the house.

High Water Rental at Indianapolis. Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 29.

What will probably be the high water mark in rentals in this city may be paid, beginning Jan. 1, for the use of the store now occupied by Paul Kraus, who is preparing to move. It is said that a local theatorium company, operating a chain of nickelodeons will rent this stand. The nearest approach to this figure, now being paid by an electric theater is \$6,500 a year for the show in Washington street. Other theatorium rents range downward from \$3,000. Dayton, Ohio, boasts a house paying ten thousand a year rent, but if the local deal goes through, \$12,000 will be the record for the middle west.

LATE FILM NOTES

Richmond, Mo.—S. E. Black, of Maryville, has bought the north side electric theater, and took charge.

Mt. Pulaski, Ill.—Otto Hills has sold his interest in the moving picture theater at this place to his partner, W. W. Snyder.

New London, Conn.—Ground has been broken for the new Nickel theater which the Perry estate and B. L. Armstrong are to erect in Bank street for Bullock & Davis.

Rockford, Ill.—Contractor Schmeling has started the work of remodeling the old rink building, which is to be used by the Majestic theater.

Detroit, Mich.—The National Film Exchange has combined with the Lake Shore Film & Supply Co., of Cleveland, and is being operated as a branch of the latter concern.

Deundee, Ill.—Messrs. J. W. Andrews and L. W. Lawrence, of Elgin, will open a new five-cent theater here to be known as the Crescent.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—The moving picture theater of Francis & Edwards, at 381 Fulton street, Jamaica, was damaged by fire.

Rochester, N. Y.—H. J. Moore is about to erect a theatorium here.

Cleveland, O.—The picture operators here have organized and are affiliated with the Stage Employees' Union.

Toronto, Can.—C. H. Thompson, proprietor of the Dominion Film Exchange, has sold out to P. L. Waters, 41 E. 21st street, New York.

Niagara Falls, N. Y.—A new theatorium has been opened here in the Hanrahan block, North Main street. Vaudeville acts are used. Robert G. Clark and A. E. White are the promoters. It seats 200.

San Angelo, Tex.—S. S. Prince, owner of the Theatorium, has been so successful in its operation that he now promises to build a more substantial house, if he can obtain a lot upon a ten or fifteen year lease. Mr. Prince is interested in theatoriums at other places.

Muscatine, Ia.—Carl Laemmle, of Chicago, has purchased from J. C. Sodini the lease of the Family theater here and will install his films here. It is rumored that he will also adopt this as a distributing point for Iowa.

Cheyenne, Wyo.—M. F. Barry sold his interest in the Crystal to Moore and Graves, a Denver firm. Alterations are under way.

Chattanooga, Tenn.—For the fourth time during the past few months, Dreamland, a moving picture theater, was burned out last Thursday and following the fire Howell Graham, proprietor of the Theato, the oldest and original moving picture house here, purchased the remainder of the rival house and will conduct the two places hereafter.

York, Pa.—Marcus Ball and Harvey C. Small, both of this city, have purchased the Casino moving picture theater from William H. Waltman.

Batavia, Ill.—Odenhal & Davis, of the Batavia Rug Company, of North River street, are making arrangements to open a moving picture theater here.

Ottawa, Kans.—The Star theater, at 107 South Main street has been sold to Messrs. Castator & Brown, of Ponca City, Okla.

Muscatine, Iowa.—The Family theater, owned and operated by J. C. Sodini, has been sold to Carl Laemmle, president of the Laemmle Film Service.

Canton, Ill.—D. Frank Baylor has sold the Empire five-cent theater on South Main street to John C. Silvernail.

Tuscola, Ill.—J. C. Webb, of Rockville, has purchased the Bijou moving picture theater from E. E. Alger, and is now in charge.

Portland, Maine.—Hon. James P. Baxter is planning to establish a moving picture theater on Monument Square.

Cheyenne, Wyo.—Bryer Bros. have sold the Crystal theater to S. C. Moore and S. H. Graves, who own a similar string of theaters in Laramie, Denver, Colorado Springs and Greeley. Extensive improvements will be made.

Merrill, Wis.—The Merrill Amusement Company has been incorporated with capital stock of \$10,000. The incorporators are James A. Wright, Dan Healy and M. G. Bellis.

Oxford, Ohio.—William Wilkinson, of Hamilton, has leased the large room of R. W. Vanness, corner Main and Park Place, and will fit it up for a moving picture theater.

Baltimore, Md.—Pearce & Scheck, 223 North Calvert street, will expend \$15,000 in remodeling building at Baltimore and Holiday streets into a moving picture show.

J. Stuart Blackton Returns.

Mr. J. Stuart Blackton, secretary of the Vitagraph Company of America, who returned from a European trip, in which he combined both pleasure and business, was entertained the evening after his return by a surprise party comprising seventy-five members of the company, at the Hofbrau, Brooklyn. A sumptuous banquet was spread and an excellent entertainment consisting of songs and speeches and words of good fellowship, made the home-coming a most memorable one.

ONE NIGHT STANDS

A Jolly American Tramp, which opened recently, disbanded last Sunday.

The show Texas will go to the state Texas for the first time with the coming of 1909.

Clarence Bennett and Edna Marshall are scoring artistic successes in The Holy City.

Earl Shoeman will open The Robbery of the American Express at Goshen, Ind., early in January.

Murray Snell, of the theatrical colony at Faribault, Minn., is out again after a long siege with typhoid fever.

Edward J. Adler, who closed The Cowboy's Girl recently, will reopen the company about Christmas.

Lorin J. Howard has taken out The Power of Love for a short season. The company opened at Burlington, Iowa, on Christmas day.

Floyd Kerns runs moving pictures at the Majestic at Fairbury, Neb., on nights on which there are no road attractions booked.

H. D. Collins, for many years with Voelckel & Nolan's attractions, is now with E. J. Carpenter's, At Cripple Creek, as manager.

W. A. Mahara, who has been in Chicago for a month or so battling with the yellow jaundice, is able to be out on the streets.

Frank E. Foster, of Iowa Falls, Iowa, was at Eagle Grove in that state for the opening of the new theater by A Knight for a Day.

Parsifal laid off Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week at St. Louis, and appeared at Poplar Bluff, Mo., on Christmas night.

In one week The Honeymoon Trail, The Burgomaster, Lola from Berlin, Parsifal, and The Man from Home appeared at the Labelle theater at Pittsburg, Kan.

Guthrie & Dunroy, a new Chicago producing firm, sent George Fox in Weary Willie Walker out to Dixon, Ill., to fill an open date on Christmas.

The New Clerk company disbanded at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., after playing to light houses for several weeks. Every one went back to New York by rail.

Texas is one of the bright spots on the theatrical map. At Weatherford The Devil, Black Patti and W. B. Patton all had crowded houses recently.

Dan Sully and his company boarded the wrong train in Joliet and instead of going to Rock Island came to Chicago. The date in Rock Island had to be canceled.

Oaks & Gilson's A Bachelor's Honeymoon, with James Green in the leading role, made its second appearance at Fairbury, Neb., recently and played to a full house.

Louis Hathaway, who had been with Gilson and Oaks' A Bachelor's Honeymoon since it opened last August, showed up in Faribault, Minn., a short time ago and will spend the holidays there.

Billie Warmington, who is at his home at Faribault, Minn., through the closing of Truesdale Brothers' Minstrels, says that business continues very bad in the small towns in Iowa.

There has not been a dark night at the Academy at Newport News, Va., since the season opened, as moving pictures are presented when there are no road attractions booked.

The beautiful theater at Columbia, Mo., which was formerly managed by W. W. Garth and over which there was some litigation recently, has reopened under new management.

Clifford Malloy, appearing in David Garrick, made a cut in salaries of the cast and some members resigned, but he rushed Mrs. Mallory into a part and made doubles which permitted the company to move on.

G. Carlton Guy is proprietor of The Cry Baby which is reported to have had nice business at Marion, Ill., Dec. 17. James L. McCabe did fair in The Irish Senator two nights ahead of The Cry Baby.

Maralynne Fink, of Fred G. Conrad's The Two Orphans, arrived in Chicago Monday night from Oklahoma and spent a day or so with her parents at South Bend, Ind., returning to Lawton, Okla., in time for a performance Christmas day.

All of Fred Conrad's shows laid off the first four days of this week. Business with his attractions was fairly good week of Dec. 14. The Two Orphans, Eugene Moore and Monte Cristo had fair weeks, but A Dangerous Friend and The Hidden Hand suffered.

Don't Tell My Wife, a farce comedy with musical numbers and specialties, under the management of Miles Berry, opened the season at Guthrie, Okla., Nov. 21. The executive staff and cast is as follows: Miles Berry and Geo. Lissner, proprietors; Miles Berry, manager; Geo. Lissner, business representative; Phil Lewis, general agent; J. B. Burton, director and stage manager; Pearl Alberts, musical director; L. F. Andrews, Albert Gaston, Jerry Saunders, Eddie Burke, Olivia Payton, Josephine Bond and Myrtle Hummer. Each member of the cast is a specialty artist and the three acts and specialties make a continuous performance from start to finish.

A GLOOMY OUTLOOK IN ONE-NIGHT STANDS

More Open Time in Central West Than Was Ever Known at This Time of Year.

The outlook in the one-night stands is very discouraging. Shows continue to disband, house managers complain about the scarcity of attractions and there are many actors and actresses seeking employment and receiving scant encouragement.

There is more open time in the central west now than was ever known at this time of year. A manager who saw the open-time sheets of various circuits says that it cannot hardly be credited that four and five nights are open a week in cities where six one-night stands have contested for business every week in years past.

L. G. Frawley, correspondent of THE SHOW WORLD at Chattanooga, Tenn., says attractions are also scarce in the south. He writes: "There is much complaint among managers of houses throughout the south because of the scarcity of productions. Take, for instance, the Shubert theater of this city, one of the newest, prettiest and most complete houses in the southern country. It is averaging just two shows a week and is capable of providing patronage for at least four or five good attractions every six days. Of course, poor attractions would have a hard time of it under any circumstances, but the people of Chattanooga have money—plenty of it—and they never hesitate to turn it loose to see a show with merit."

Late reports from Arkansas are to the effect that the state is getting very bad. Reports from the Pacific coast are also very discouraging. Southern Illinois, Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas seem to be the only places west of the Ohio river in which a one-night stand production finds conditions encouraging.

A one-night stand organization is said to have played to \$60 gross at Davenport, Iowa, recently. \$83 gross at Clinton on two performances, \$90 at Muscatine, \$37 at Moline, Ill., \$30 at Litchfield, \$53 at Alton, and \$58 at Belleville. The Four Corners of the Earth is reported to have played to \$9.50 gross one night at Morgan, Utah, and Hi Henry is said to have only gotten \$38 at Ault, Utah.

BAD BUSINESS MADE AL WILSON PEEVISH.

When Called Before the Curtain for a Speech Actor Criticised the Southerners.

Al H. Wilson, who is appearing in the south in When Old New York was Dutch, is not receiving the large audiences which his performance is said to merit and when called before the curtain by his admirers has been finding fault with the southerners for not turning out en masse to greet him.

Like many other clever actors Mr. Wilson takes himself too seriously and cannot see how society folk would rather attend some grand function than to see his new play.

At Birmingham, Ala., Wilson did have a good house last Thursday night and he was foolish enough to let the audience know he was unaccustomed to big crowds by remarking in his curtain speech:

"My! Vat a crowd!" Edwin J. Blank, correspondent of this paper at Charleston, S. C., touches on this matter with true Southern gallantry when he writes:

"Al Wilson appeared here last week in When New York was Dutch. During the performance, the audience, which was rather small, but very vociferous in its praise, finally induced Mr. Wilson to make a few remarks. Mr. Wilson appeared and somewhat criticised the small attendance, but the patrons took it good-naturedly, and not as in other cities of the South, where he was severely taken to task for his criticisms of the attendance which greeted him."

TWO MARRYING MARY'S BOOKED SIDE BY SIDE

Princess in Frisco Planned to Produce the Play Same Week Florence Gear Would Appear.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 21. A clash has arisen in theatrical circles over the production of Marrying Mary in this city in January. The Princess theater advertises a presentation of the play and the American theater has the same show booked for the same week by a traveling company headed by Florence Gear.

The stock production was to be the first of the Princess pieces after the departure of Kolb and Dill, whose contract with the Princess will expire some time in January.

Florence Gear is booked to arrive January 14 at the American theater. The two shows could not well exist side by side, according to the ethics of the stage, and there have been some warm and readable telegrams between producers, play owners and local theatrical magnates over the situation.

Manager Abe Cohn of the American

wired to John Cort, who supplies theatrical attractions to the west, asking for an explanation of the dual sale of the piece. Manager Cort wired back that he had bought the play from Jules Murry and that he owned absolutely all producing rights for Marrying Mary west of the Mississippi river and that no other theater could produce it without his consent, which consent, he said, he would withhold from the Princess.

BOOKING ARRANGEMENT FOR ONE NIGHT STANDS

Six Hundred Houses in the West Now in One Big Combination, It Is Said.

At a recent conference at Sioux Falls, S. D., five or six hundred theaters controlled by H. L. Walker, C. P. Walker, M. W. Jencks and L. F. Smeltzer were merged into one big theatrical venture according to report. These four men in one manner or another control, according to their claims, between five and six hundred theaters, starting in Idaho and running down through Utah, Colorado, Nebraska, Montana, Kansas, Iowa, South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, Manitoba.

Some time ago they held a meeting at Minneapolis at which the original plans for controlling the theaters in the vast territory was mapped out. Mr. Smeltzer for instance, with his partner, Mr. Pelton, controls the theaters in Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado and Montana. Then Mr. Jencks takes up the field in Nebraska, northern Kansas, western Iowa, southwestern Minnesota and southern South Dakota, having all told 152 houses. H. L. Walker, with his circuit comprising towns in northern South Dakota and central Minnesota, comes next, and C. P. Walker controls northern North Dakota, northern Minnesota and Manitoba.

This gives an unbroken chain of nearly six hundred houses. A number of these houses are controlled outright by the four gentlemen mentioned, but most of them are controlled through bookings.

GRAND OPERA FOR KALAMAZOO THEATER.

New Stair & Haylin House Will Open Early in April and First Booking Has Been Made.

New York, Dec. 24. Stair & Haylin's new theater at Kalamazoo, Mich., will open early in April. The opening attraction has not yet been announced.

That the theater will be ready for opening by this time was assured this week when Henry W. Savage's grand opera company was booked for an appearance at the new house.

It is said to have taken a great deal of persuasion to get Mr. Savage to consent to the organization playing a one night stand.—WALTER.

LOSES A DAY TO PLAY CHRISTMAS MATINEE.

Eleanor Robson Makes Long Jump from Atlanta, Ga., to Chattanooga.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Dec. 21. Christmas week finds Chattanooga with two of the best attractions playing southern dates—Eleanor Robson and Charley Grapevin. Miss Robson is the Christmas Day attraction at the Shubert, playing matinee and night, while Mr. Grapevin is located at the Bijou for ten performances—six nights and four matinees. In order to give a matinee here Miss Robson lays off Christmas Eve, coming here direct from the Grand Opera House, Atlanta, as soon as the performance is over on the night of Dec. 23.

At the Shubert East Lynn comes Wednesday for matinee and night performances, followed by Miss Robson on Friday and then the house has another season of darkness, opening again on Dec. 30 with The Virginian. The following day, the much-heralded Molnar production, Savage's The Devil comes. The Cat and the Fiddle comes on Jan. 1, Francis Wilson on the 5th and Buster Brown on the 9th.—FRAWLEY.

Sale of Empire Theater.

New York, Dec. 24. The partition sale of the Empire theater property, together with the adjoining building at the southeast corner of Broadway and Fortieth Street, will take place on Jan. 7.

The properties are owned jointly by Al Hayman and the heirs of Frank W. Sanger. It is the settlement of the Sanger estate which has made the sale necessary.

Charles Frohman, who, with Rich & Harris, leased the theater in 1892 for ten years, with privilege of renewal, has control of the property until May 1, 1912, and the sale will be subject to his rights.

AGENTS AND MANAGERS

H. E. Randall is ahead of Sanford Dodge.

O. J. Dietz is still in advance of The Lyman Twins.

Al Flynn is managing James K. Hackett in his tour of the south.

Sammy Fisher was in Chicago last week in advance of Messenger Boy 42.

Doc Gardner, who is ahead of The Candy Kid, is sending out a neat Christmas card.

Al A. Powers, who was ill at a hospital at Jacksonville, Ill., was able to come to Chicago recently and is now at the Palace hotel.

Melville B. Raymond, who is doing some remarkable newspaper work for The Revolution, was in Chicago last Saturday night.

S. Goodfriend and Thomas McKee are both with James K. Hackett this season. This is remarkable inasmuch as they are the most prominent agents who still retain the plug hats.

Chas. Thropp is in advance and Myron B. Rice is back with The Gingerbread Man which was the only show the Nixon & Zimmerman Opera company had on the road a short time ago.

Wallace Sackett was in Chicago last week in advance of The Straight Road, and was accompanied by Mrs. Sackett. Mr. Sackett was formerly the editor of Bubbles, a publication which lasted for one consecutive issue.

T. J. Richards, who was in advance of the Steelsmith version of Lena Rivers, which closed at Leavenworth, Kan., Dec. 19, is now in Chicago. He was formerly with the advance of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Shows.

The manager of Ben Hur insisted on having the people seated during the first act of the play at Ogden, Utah, although it is a house rule never to seat those who come late until the act is over. mutiny of the ushers was narrowly averted.

Fred Seymour, who is ahead of the Donald Robertson players, was in Chicago Monday and reports excellent business. C. W. Williams, who was identified with William Owen for many seasons, is also ahead of that show.

John F. Harley, manager back with The Man from Home, told George E. Howard representative of this paper at Pittsburg, Kan., that he (Harley) is one of the few "business men" handling companies this season. The members of the company receive very high salaries, according to Harley, and it is largely due to his efforts. If Mr. Harley is able to get money for his show while traveling back he is doing more than many agents a week ahead and it is surprising that he is permitted to remain out in the one-nights.

One Born Every Minute.

Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 22. Three members of the Heart for Money company, which went to smash in Schoharie county, a short time ago, were arrested by detectives and hindering the arrival of officers from Albany. A. Monroe Younger, who is said to be the "angel" of the company, visited the detective bureau and cast a mournful look not alone at the prisoners, but also the property he accused them of stealing. He said that the adventure had cost him over \$500 and that it was the first time he had ever backed a company and that it would be the last.

Monument for Haverly.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 21. In memory of Colonel "Jack" Haverly in his day one of the powers of the theatrical world, a handsome granite monument has been dedicated at his grave in Mount Peace Cemetery. This tribute was prepared by Cohan and Harris and other minstrel celebrities. Scores of men and women prominent in theatrical affairs participated in the ceremonies.

Actor in Trouble.

Muscatine, Iowa, Dec. 21. Morse Freeman, when captured at West Liberty, is said to have confessed to passing a bad check in Muscatine. He victimized the Clapp Hardware Company to the extent of \$14. Freeman was a member of the Honeymoon Trail company and was discharged here.

Three Twins Plays Return.

Vincennes, Ind., Dec. 21. The Three Twins played a return here Dec. 18, and the house was sold out when the curtain went up. The Aubrey stock is holding forth this week with the exception of 23, when it gives way to Honeymoon Trail. Moving picture houses are prospering.—BELL.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 17.

The annual election of the Musicians Mutual Association's Local No. 99 A. F. of M., Portland, Oregon, held Dec. 17 resulted in the following officers being elected: President, N. A. Norris; vice president, C. M. Newman; treasurer, W. L. Bentley; secretary, Carl Stoll. Directors: A. L. Britting, C. Walrath, W. Weber, N. A. Tait. Sergeant at Arms, C. A. Colby.—LARRIMORE.

STAR THEATRE

FINEST THEATRE ON CHICAGO. THE NORTHWEST SIDE

BILL WEEK OF
A Potpourri Of Cartoonistical

DECEMBER 21st 1908.
Impressions By The SHOW WORLD Artist.

VAUDEVILLE

ORDER!!

EVERY TIME THEY SPEAK
OF AN ENGINE THEY CALL
IT A SHE.

BECAUSE IT TAKES A
MAN TO RUN HER! HA! HA!

A GREAT
HOLIDAY
BILL!!!

WHY DO THEY
CALL IT A SHE?

LEWIS AND CHAPIN

SMART SINGING, DANCING
AND TALKING.

ONE TIME WHILE I WAS
VISITING IN RICHMOND
VIRGINIA, ETC

MABEL
MAITLAND
IN QUANT OLD
SOUTHERN STORIES



MEET ME IN ROSE TIME
"ROSIE" TRUE LOVE IS ALWAYS COZY



MANAGER
C.E. KOHL JR.
PRESENTS —

I WANT SOMEONE
TO CALL ME
DEARIE!
WHY NOT YOU?

ADELAIDE
AMERICA'S
GREATEST
DANCER



ADELAIDE AND HER
DANCING GIRLS



CHAPIN



ROY
LA PEARL
SINGER OF POPULAR SONGS



SALLY! SALLY ETC.

DEHAVEN &
EXPERT

SIDNEY
DANCERS



I'VE NEVER BEEN
SO SICK BEFORE AND
I'VE TRAVELED OVER
THE B & O. AND —
OH! I FEEL LIKE
A LOBSTER!

HE IS ALWAYS
WRITING TO ME

LETTER

ALL HANDS
ON DECK!



AN IMPRESSION
OF THE

BIG
BOTTOMLY
ACT

SHOWING TWO OF THE TROUPE.

AMERICA'S GREATEST CASTING ACT
PERFORMING

TRIPLE AND DOUBLE SOMERSAULTS IN THE AIR.



COLE AND COLEMAN

THEY PLAY SOME REAL MUSIC.



HARRY AND KATE JACKSON.
IN THE SCENIC FARCE COMEDY "CUPID'S VOYAGE"



Z. A. HENDRICK
SHOW WORLD CHI.

THE SHOW WORLD

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Anonymous matter will not be considered under any circumstances. Writers desiring their names be withheld from publication must so state beneath their signatures.

We do not solicit contributions from unauthorized correspondents, but in special instances we will consider contributions bearing upon a topic of vital interest to the profession of entertainment.



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1908.

EDITORIAL.

THE AFTERMATH

It is difficult indeed not to be pessimistic in view of the reports from all sections of the country which we daily receive. Shows are closing their tours, right and left. The small towns have never been in such pitiable condition so far as amusements are concerned. The higher priced productions, which are making a profit en tour, can almost be counted upon the fingers of two hands.

And yet we were told a few months ago that the country's crops were never so large, and that, with the money which the selling of them would place in circulation—prosperity would come again.

We were told that with election once decided, bankers would feel sufficiently confident to extend further credits and release funds which had been reserved for emergencies.

We were told that a nation so rich in natural resources as this land of ours could not linger in the slough of a slump.

But the facts and the figures remain to prove a condition to the contrary.

Let us look to the possible reason.

The farmer, frightened by the devil of depression, sold his crops for a goodly sum. He paid his essential debts. The balance he is holding until he is sufficiently reassured that there is more

money at the source from which his present hoardings have come.

With the decision of the national election orders were turned loose from railroads, gigantic industries and mercantile lines aggregating millions, if not billions of dollars. They were orders, to be sure. The actual payment must come with the delivery of the goods. Meanwhile credit extensions may not be so liberal in proportion as they were a year or more ago. As to the nation's resources, we must recall that the mining, oil and cattle fields were practically idle during the days of the depression, and, although they may now be working upon full time, the result of this labor cannot be felt immediately.

It is the poor man who has suffered most. But the poor man is working now and with typical American assurance, he demands amusement. He cannot yet afford to pay for his melodrama, but his favorite diversion must come back to him sooner or later.

So he seeks the picture show, which, once upon a time shared but half his amusement interest. And, in consequence the motion picture men are in store for a second inning, perhaps of far greater scope than the first.

LONG CONTRACTS

Many performers are naturally elated when they have secured a long contract from a manager. They somehow feel that it is a deserved reward for past services well done, and perhaps it is. Long contracts are in the nature of compliments in a world that measures by money. Managers, for the most part, being wise business men, do not engage the services of a performer, if those services are not calculated to bring in a reasonable revenue. But the onus of the average long-contract falls not upon the manager but upon the performer. Such contracts are not a permission to the performer to maintain his performance at the point at which it is when the contract is signed. It is rather an evidence of managerial faith in the future performances of the player; a talent placed at compound interest in the bank of public esteem.

It is essential, therefore, that a performer must advance with his audience. The novelty of today is discounted by tomorrow. Constant training, incessant feeding of ambition, untiring application of energy,—these are the price the performer must pay who would hold the high regard of his public and managerial contracts really worth the while.

Billy, the Trailer, had an item last week to the effect that Frank O. Peers had been appointed assistant manager and treasurer of the Whitney Opera house in Chicago. As this appointment went into effect so long ago that Mr. Peers has made good in that capacity and has since been promoted to the management of the theater the use of his photo now and the playing up of the item, serves to make Billy, the Trailer, more ridiculous than he has been in the past—if such a thing is possible. We feel it is due to The Trailer's Chicago representative to say that he is in no wise responsible for this blunder. The photo was not sent in through the regular correspondent of the paper, but was sent months ago by the fellow who was then press agent of the theater and who by the way was succeeded many weeks ago by Johnson Gilchrist who now occupies the position credited to Mr. Peers.

Any unbiased person, reading the published charges and the resulting verdict in the Fiske-Savage controversy is forced to admit, on this evidence, the justice of the Savage stand. There were no legal questions involved; the lack of copyright arrangements with Hungary, precluded the possibility of invoking the law. The entire case was the outcome of a managerial treachery—one of the very things which the Theatrical Producing Managers' Association was formed to prevent. Either the verdict is correct or else the claims of Harrison Grey Fiske are more to be relied upon than the judgment of the other ninety nine per cent of the membership.

The New York Dramatic Mirror, which goes to press on Monday and tries to fool its public by pushing its date line forward to the following Saturday, discovers, in its issue of December 19, that its editor and proprietor, Harrison Grey Fiske was fired from the Theatrical Producing Managers' Association on December 8. The enterprise of the Mirror is to be highly commended.

IN MEMORIAM

Peter J. Scwab.

Peter J. Schwab, age 26, composer and master violinist, who died of consumption, Friday, December 11, at his home, 358 E. 41st street, Chicago, is still mourned by his many friends. His demise capped the climax of a struggle for life extending over four years.

While still a mere youth, he entered the orchestra of the Great Northern theater and remained there for six years, during which time he was promoted to the position of assistant leader. Having completed an extended course in harmony, he arranged instrumentals for other composers. But a neglected cold, combined with nervous exhaustion due to over-work, became so serious that he was compelled to retire from active employment in the fall of 1906.

Though physically ill, his brain became more active from the enforced idleness and, a few months later, he broached his first composition, Sentimental Girl. It was extensively played in professional circles, but, like most first compositions, failed to appeal to the public at large. He had invested all his ready money in marketing it and soon found himself comparatively poor.

Determined to regain his health he went to Hot Springs, Ariz., where he continued his writing. There he found friends who encouraged him and he soon began a lengthy opera for a St. Louis librettist. But his health failed him and he returned to Chicago where he entered upon an association with a lyric writer. But lack of funds and a relapse again interfered with his material success and he made a second trip to Arizona.

But it was not long before he went back home for his last stay. Too proud to ask aid of his professional friends, too sick to obtain regular employment, yet ever optimistic regarding the future he continued his writing. His intense physical suffering and optimistic mind combined to produce many weird melodies. Underlying them all was the proud, sensitive independent soul, semi-conscious of its own helplessness. Death overtook him in the very height of his work.

Only a few knew of his gallant struggle for the life which meant so much to him; only a few were permitted to hear his beautiful compositions. But they will ever remember him as the student, the unrewarded genius.

He was buried in full leaders' costume, at Oakwoods cemetery. A string quartette composed of his four most intimate professional friends played hymns as the funeral procession started on its way.

His partner, though disconsolate at the untimely death, is determined to place all of their joint compositions upon the market.

OBITUARY

George Horner, a bill poster at the Bijou theater in Chicago, and a member of Chicago local No. 1, died Dec. 10 and was buried Dec. 14.

Stringham—Sadie Stringham, died at Amityville, L. I., Dec. 15. She was 57 years of age and her last appearance was with The Lion and the Mouse.

John Radigan, formerly a billposter with the John Robinson and other circuses, died in Chicago, Dec. 14 from dropsy and was buried Dec. 16.

Harry Deakin, engaged in the theatrical business at Milwaukee for many years, died in Chicago Dec. 10, the victim of a surgical operation.

Glazier—Harry Glazier, a member of the Belasco stock company in Los Angeles, Cal., and formerly a star in The Three Musketeers, died Dec. 13 from heart disease.

O'Dell—Alma O'Dell, wife of William O'Dell, superintendent of the Bijou theater, died Dec. 15 and was buried Dec. 17. She had been a rider with various circuses years ago.

Rogers—The three-year-old baby daughter of Milt and Grace Rogers, died in Chicago Dec. 10 from diphtheria. Mr. Rogers directed the John Robinson circus band for eight years and his wife was cornet soloist with the same band.

Devan—William Devan, for many years an acrobat and rider with leading circuses, died in Chicago Dec. 18, and was buried Dec. 20. He had been ill for eight years. He is survived by a wife, professionally known as Lizzie Rooney, a mother, two sisters and a host of friends.

Robbles—Emilio Robbles, a member of Wheelock's United States Indian band, died at Chattanooga, Tenn., rather suddenly the first of last week. He had been sick but a few days when he expired. Maintaining the stoicism which has made Indians famous the world over, the companions of the dead man said nothing to any of the profession in Chattanooga and in consequence Robbles was buried by the county authorities. Manager John Gillespie, of the Hippodrome Skating rink, when he heard of the death went to the morgue for the purpose of furnishing burial expenses, but was too late as the body had already been consigned to earth.—FRAWLEY.

There are two "Pat's Paper" in the field now. The Warren A., and the Casey. Neither is clipper built nor do they mirror the methods of yesterday, but they are passing the line in fast trim, nevertheless.

The Courtesy of The American.

Through the courtesy of the Chicago American we are glad to present upon our title page this week the likenesses of Messrs. Charles Frohman and Charles B. Dillingham. This is the first time the pictures of these two important theatrical men have ever appeared in an amusement paper. Mr. Frohman has earned a reputation as the "unphotographed Frohman," while Mr. Dillingham's picture has never appeared in print before, according to the best authorities.

THE SHOW WORLD is glad to take this opportunity of calling the public's attention to the esprit de corps which exists in the offices of the Hearst papers. The Hearst millions alone could not establish the Hearst papers upon the high plane which those publications have reached had it not been for the fact that the Hearst management is very careful in its choice of its workers. They are men and women selected for their ability in their respective lines.

IN THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY.

A New Selig Film That Will Probably Rank as One of the American Masterpieces—Realistic Action and Beautiful Scenic Effects.

At a private sitting, to which a dozen newspaper representatives were invited, the Selig Polyscope Company displayed for the first time last Saturday afternoon, in the exhibition room adjoining the Selig salesrooms, a film entitled In the Shenandoah Valley.

The film is said to have cost nearly \$3,000 to produce; a fact which seemed amply attested in the number of actors employed, including a troupe of trained horses, a regiment of soldiers and the more prominent persons in the cast, as well as the very evident expense of the scenic equipment.

The audience was typically newspaperesque. The men and women present were a somewhat case-hardened quantity, accustomed to the unusual and not to be affected by pretended novelties, the surprise and delight, the frequent outbursts of applause and the congratulations which this audience showered upon the management when at last they passed from the exhibition room to the outer office may well be accepted as a criterion of the excellence of this subject.

If Selig had made but this one film during the course of the career of his establishment, he might well have been satisfied to rest upon the laurels which this will undoubtedly earn him.

In the Shenandoah Valley—the story of the battle of Winchester, of Sheridan's famous ride and how it turned defeat into victory, the closing days of the great Civil War, are all faithfully depicted in this Selig product, which should be destined to an important place in the archives of national history.—W. M.

Rules for Operators.

Rule No. 1.—When entering this booth kindly start smoking immediately, for our films are fire-proof and we have nothing that will burn except carbons.

Rule No. 2.—Kindly place your feet on the rewind bench for we never have occasion to use it, our films rewind themselves.

Rule No. 3.—Sit close to the film box as it is a handy place to dispose of cigarette butts and burnt matches.

Rule No. 4.—Please tell us all about the summer before last when you were on the road as all operators have had thorough experience, especially those that took a course in a correspondence school.

Rule No. 5.—Kindly plant yourself down in our only chair as we never sit down, and above all don't forget to freeze our carbons.

Rule No. 6.—If you see anything that would help complete your set of tools just help yourself as we are blind.

Rule No. 7.—Ask all the questions possible for I am an expert operator and electrician. I have had ten years' experience and I get \$7.00 per—(haps).

The National Film Co.

A Cressy Reminiscence.

Will M. Cressy, who appeared in a sketch at the Majestic in Des Moines this week, tells interestingly of his "tank town" experience. Says he:

"I was with a company that played thirty-two weeks from Boston to Albany. Can you beat that? I was supposed to get \$6 a week, but I was paid for only four or five weeks. We generally played a week in a town, but when we didn't make enough the first week to get out of town, we stayed another week. I drove a big motor car now, but I never thought I'd drive anything in those days."

Cressy is known probably better as a successful sketch writer than a vaudeville actor. In all Cressy has written some fifty and has just finished one for Donnely, who was on the circuit through this state last winter with Mars Covington. Cressy claims to have been the first man to put on a sketch with pathos in it. But his general receipt is fifteen minutes of fun, three minutes of pathos and a laugh as the climax.

IF YOUR NEWSDEALER

does not keep THE SHOW WORLD in stock, tell him he can get it from his wholesale news company. If you find any difficulty in getting THE SHOW WORLD drop a postal to Circulation Manager THE SHOW WORLD, Chicago.

Missouri Breeze.

A ZEPHYR FROM "SHOW ME - LAND"

Vol. 3. CHICAGO, DECEMBER 26, 1908 No. 52

THE MISSOURI BREEZE.
E. E. Meredith, Editor.
Office Under the Editor's Hat.

Communications to the editor may as well be thrown in your waste basket as his.

James O'Toole was not scheduled for a trip to Elkhart this Christmas.

After Harry Lauder has been lauded all over the country how can Chicago laud Lauder any louder.

Agents of The Devil are having the devil of a time getting time out in the one-nights.

The White Rats will put out vaudeville companies. They will not present The Blue Mouse, however.

It is a lucky show which gets the amount of its baggage bill in many sections of the country.

There is no particular use for the agent to argue with the house manager about the size of the free list this season.

A visit to many theatrical managers finds them packing up their letter files and close interrogation reveals the fact that they vacate their offices on the morrow.

The Breeze believes the rumor that John W. Gates approached the Sells-Floto Shows to join hands with his proposed circus is false. The Breeze believes it is false because H. H. Tammen says it is true.

J. Conchez, property man of the Family theater at Butte, Mont., was undisputed when he got the wrong impression of the number of guns needed for The Battle of Too Soon. The plot said 2 3/4 revolvers, but Conchez never saw the hyphen and returned to the theater after a four hours search with 174 guns in a wheelbarrow. "These are all I could find" he said cheerfully, "and must make these do."

Who shall wear Richard Mansfield's mantle and be proclaimed as America's greatest actor? David Warfield has the last syllable of Mansfield's name and possibly other claims for the honor. Robert Mantell, though, has the first syllable of Mansfield's name and an equal

MAJESTIC

It is a well rounded and highly entertaining bill that is offered the Majestic patrons this week, and, despite the fact that many houses are complaining of poor holiday business, this theater is drawing substantial business. By eight o'clock Monday, the entire lower floor was practically filled. The opening numbers of the program included Short and Edwards, Bert Leemon and Leonard and Louie. Charles Besnah and Julia Miller held fourth place. Their duo singing is not effective because of the preponderating fullness of Miss Miller's voice. Their solo work was very good and was highly appreciated. Besnah's dancing numbers won him many rounds of applause, as did the duo dancing. Miss Miller's solo singing was of a high order of comedy merit and earned several recalls for her. Francis Olloms and page, offering a mixture of xylophone, concertina and acrobatic comedy work readily evoked great applause and was forced to remain several minutes beyond his allotted schedule. Jeanie Fletcher has been previously reviewed in these columns. Franklyn Underwood, the man with the typewriter names, assisted by Frances Slosson and George Bloomquest, offered a neat comedy sketch entitled "Dobb's Dilemma." It is a light, airy bit of persiflage of the wife-deceiving order, well calculated to entertain any mixed audience. It is a smile, rather than a laugh evoker, but as such, creditably fills its portion of the bill. Will someone please tell Jeannette Lowrie not to attempt to sing. She spoils all the good impression of her clever monologue and recitative work with a voice of three good tones and several flats. When she talked her songs, her work was most effective. Ed Lavine's juggling act is sufficient evidence of what a novel setting and unique comedy work will do to assist a juggler who has but one or two tricks out of the regular routine. Lavine kept his audience in an uproar when they were not applauding. The Basque Grand Opera Quartet offered a program of operatic numbers which was invariably well sung and well received.

following among theatergoers. There were two "i's" in Richard Mansfield's name and there is only one in Wilton Lackey. The hero of The Battle then lacks an "i" as his surname indicates. Then there is Otis Skinner and E. H. Sothern, too. Let us leave it to Burns where the Mantle shall fall.

The Mimic World.

It burlesques what we have never seen, Yet it keeps the interest ever keen By frequent risque and often vulgar flings.

Even sweet and winning Lizzie Brice, Has to sing a song which isn't nice, And other things.

Gertie Hoffman wrenches, writhes and wriggles, Till she makes the boys all have the giggles, And blushes to the maiden's check she brings, Her Salome has others sick abed, For to the winds she throws the whiskered head, And other things.

The show belongs to Shuberts and Lew Fields, And from the Sunday matinee, it yields Little of that which joy to showman brings, The house was then possibly half filled, And yet the show as spicy had been billed, And other things.

JEALOUS OF THE DRUMMER AT SID EUSON'S THEATER.

Gingery, gingery, The Lid Lifters are fast and gay, And work to them is really play, But Fritz Snuff puts you in a huff, She's a hummer, But her eye's on the drummer, Who is watching-lingerie.

Truly a Bad Season.

"I see that the Jolly American Tramp company came in last Sunday," remarked E. Lawrence Lee the other night. "It must be a bad season when a hobo cannot get along," chimed in Harry Bryan.

Sylves' Runs Against It.

My great big brudder Sylves', He take a show out in the wes' And he's not doing the bes' He will go stranded I guess. He writes that business is bum, That the people jes' a-won't come, That's the very latest news from My brudder Sylves'.

The Gibson-Girl Review proved a most fascinating innovation to the Majestic audience, and is to be commended for its vocal work, the excellent scenic effects, the beautiful girls and the choice costuming. Carlin and Otto made good as usual. The Four Baltus offered an Olympian gymnastic act which should rank as one of the foremost of its kind for rare feats of strength and clean-cut dexterity. The Kinodrome closed the bill with two interesting Pathe films.—W. M.

AUDITORIUM

There is too much of Gertrude Hoffman in The Mimic World, which opened at the Auditorium last Sunday for a two weeks' stay, although she is versatile enough to entertain an audience for some time. Possibly it is not that she does too much in The Mimic World, but that it takes too long for her to do it.

Her dance of Mendelsohn's Spring Song and her vision of Salome are given with stage settings which cause a long delay, and when she gets to her imitations later in the program the audience must wait while every change is being made, and as with most imitators these long waits are tiresome.

The act is said to cost the show \$1,800 a week; there is an augmented orchestra to play up her dances more effectively, there are half a dozen persons who plainly assist her and no doubt many electricians and stage employes are necessary to make her work go.

All this trouble and expense are unnecessary. Gladys Moore does toe dancing pretty enough for anybody. Elizabeth Brice introduces a song risque enough to please the most vulgar, and as George W. Monroe furnished enough comedy for the theatergoers of thirty years ago and has not changed one whit in that time he ought to satisfy now. Miss Brice and Walter Lawrence do a burlesque on "The Thief," which is clever enough to entertain those who never saw the celebrated play.

There are many musical numbers which are pleasing and the chorus is particularly well trained, pretty to look upon and pleasant to hear.—E. E. M.

ACTOR WITH MONEY.

All Precedents are Set to Naught at Severe House on the North Side.

An actor with money came nearly being robbed at the Severe House the other day according to newspaper reports.

Of course there is no sympathy to be given an actor with money and certainly not if he disclosed it when there are so many borrowers around town.

To those who desire to make a quarter touch The Breeze is pleased to state that no robbery was actually committed even if it was attempted as is reported.

An Ideal Press Notice.

In a prominent vaudeville theater in the West, where David Livingston was appearing in The Cattle Thief, an audience attending the performance, was somewhat surprised one evening. Mr. Livingston had just made his first entrance when a loud yell, "Yip-py," could be heard over the entire auditorium. A husky looking cow-puncher, was responsible for the exclamation. An officer of the theater walked down the aisle to the front row, where the noise was seated and informed him that he must refrain from making such remarks. "Why, I know that cuss on the stage," said he, "that's my old Pard, Dave Livingston, and he is one of the best that ever sat in a saddle. If you don't believe me stranger, ask the boys on the Lucky Ranch."

Mr. Livingston recognized the familiar salute and after the performance, went to the front of the theater and met his friend, who greeted him as he would a long, lost brother.

"Well, I declare," said the westerner. "You certainly did get caught in a stampede and here is where you got out—lassooing hearts of the fair ones."

After Dave informed his friend how he left the plains and entered the vaudeville profession, they left for the hotel to enjoy a delightful dinner.

Mistaken Identity.

Tom Snider, a chorus man at the La-Salle theater, was taken for Harry Singer by two fair damsels who were hunting the manager the other night in search of courtesies. They asked for Mr. Snider at the front of the house, getting the name confused with Singer. Being directed to his dressing room it took ten minutes and Louie Winkelman to straighten matters out.

OLYMPIC

"A Little Sister of the Rich" has been greatly improved by the interpolation of new songs and some new comedy for Cathryn Rowe Palmer. She is doing a monkey stunt which is the hit of the skit and would go still stronger if a monkey song was used instead of a march song. Miss Palmer is making such a tremendous personal hit at the hall that it might be well to let her give her version of Salome's dance. It is certain that she ought to have an extra encore chorus for her "Stupid Mr. Cupid" song, and if the lyricist cannot provide one there are certainly some writers around town who could spare ten minutes to do so.

Nellie Florede will join the cast of "A Little Sister of the Rich" shortly and will have a combination of the parts now portrayed by Adele Oswald and Stella Maury. Miss Florede is a Chicago girl whose greatest success was scored in vaudeville with the Six English Rockers.

The vaudeville numbers this week are pleasing. The Four Poncherrys present a wire act which is a real novelty. A young man jumps from the shoulders of one man to the shoulders of another while on a slack wire. Nell Lockwood and Hazel Bryson present a singing and whistling act which would go better if all of the numbers were given in character makeup such as the girls use for their Dutch number. Mabel Sinclair offers her ventriloquial number reviewed on the Majestic program week before last. The Four Sisters Amatis sing and play delightfully, and two extra acts were offered Monday evening.—E. E. M.

COLUMBIA

The business at the Columbia started off well this week and the bill includes: Tom Kum, contortionist; De Forest, animal act with twelve dogs; Jim and Kittie Brady, song and dance and talking act; Walter Sandford & Co., sketch; Al Warda, female impersonator; Lessie & Anita, juggling act; Short & Edwards, musical act, and the Kinodrome. The lobby is decorated for the Cherry Sisters, who come next week.

THE LATEST RETURNS FROM TURKEY SHOWS.

Incomplete Returns from 365 Out of 678 Precincts are Very Encouraging.

Incomplete returns from 365 precincts out of 678 indicate that the turkey shows prospered on Christmas day.

These shows were gotten together hurriedly to fill the open time on the various circuits and in some instances it was possible to detect a plot in the plays.

Partial returns from neighboring states indicate that while the business was not up to that of previous years it will be sufficient to tide over starvation in many instances.

Reports from New York, where these shows were more numerous than in the history of Broadway, are to the effect that three different turkey managers arrived in the city late Thursday night and displayed money.

McKay is Very Prompt.

George McKay had always claimed that a stage manager should have the implicit obedience of the members of the company. So when he was given charge of the stage for A Little Sister of the Rich at the Olympic Music hall his first official action was to call a rehearsal for eleven o'clock the next morning.

"When I say eleven, I mean eleven," he said. "I don't mean five minutes after eleven, either," he remarked in a tone of voice which carried firmness with it.

The next morning every member of the company was present but McKay himself.

He did not awake until long past noon and it kept him hustling to be made up when the curtain arose.

Now McKay is not so sure that he means eleven when he says eleven.

The Season's Best Joke.

The season's best joke appears in the newspapers and is press work for The Witching Hour. Various amusement columns have contained a press notice which opens with this paragraph:

"Lee Shubert, director-general of the firm of S. S. & Lee Shubert, probably possesses a higher degree of artistic perception than any other theatrical producer. His mind is so keen and active that it is almost clairvoyant in power."

ROSE SYDELL'S SHOW

Rose Sydell's London Belles had a particularly big week at the Star and Garter in Chicago last week, when it is taken into consideration that it was the week before Christmas. The show is one of the best on the burlesque circuit. If there were no burlesques and the vaudeville numbers alone were given it would be a satisfying performance, and with two clever skits the audiences last week were more than pleased. An Indian operetta, Poketa, concludes the first burlesque, but is really the first act of the olio. It is splendid and introduces The Marchandos, well-known operatic duo. The Manhasset Four entertain with quartette singing. Alice Raymond and four other musicians have a real musical novelty, neatly done. William S. Campbell and Johnnie Weber present a laughable comedy sketch. The Freeman Brothers do some remarkable dancing and Kennedy, Evans and Kennedy introduce as entertaining a little comedy as may be seen on any vaudeville stage. The chorus is large, the company is well dressed and Rose Sydell is as charming as of old.

THE LID LIFTERS

The Lid Lifters offer an entertaining performance this season, although it could be censored if clean burlesque is sought. There are a couple of good men with the show and the chorus entertains the men at all times. Jack and Helen Davis dance on roller skates and their specialty is novel and pleasing. John Jess and Lee Hickman in On the Links present some harmless fun. Hattie Mills sings some character songs effectively. Rose and Ellis do some astounding feats in the way of barrel jumping. Walker & Barrett entertain with a dramatic character sketch. John W. Jess stands out most prominently in both burlesques.



Start the New Year Right

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In the Shenandoah Valley

Released December 31, 1908

Code Word—War

Length, 1000 Feet

Remember Selig's Films Always Show to Packed Houses

Don't Miss This War Picture

Watch for Selig's Three Comedies Jan. 7, 1909

THE SELIG POLYSCOPE CO., 45-47-49 E. Randolph St., CHICAGO, U. S. A.

ASSOCIATION FILMS

Among the film subjects recently released by various manufacturers are the following:

An Unexpected Santa Claus, Edison, 900 feet.—A trio of "good fellows" visit Gayboy, and a Christmas dinner is arranged for chorus girl friends. Gayboy sends his wife a letter saying that he is detained at the office. The janitor is tipped to act as Santa Claus and distributes the gifts. Mrs. Gayboy receives the note and decides to keep hubby company. She arrives just as the festivities are at their height and the wine is being uncorked freely. Mrs. Gayboy grasps the situation and bribes the janitor to take his place, and enters the office as one of the girls in giving the latest Parisian dance. She distributes the presents, one of the girls receiving a pair of socks, and another a pair of brogans. The girls thinking a joke is being played, lose their tempers, and a general mixup takes place, but the mystery is cleared when Mrs. Gayboy discards her disguise and leads Gayboy out by the ear.

Turning Over a New Leaf, Edison, 900 feet.—After a night out, watching the old year out, Jones is persuaded by his wife to promise to stop drinking, smoking and staying out nights; to curb his temper, mind the baby, do chores and be a model husband. He makes a brave start, but everything goes wrong, and one by one the resolutions are broken. He reaches home in a hilarious mood, and Mrs. Jones receives him with open arms and a rolling pin, and an exciting time ensues.

The Duke's Motto, Selig, 1,000 feet.—A story of the romantic period of French regency, bristling with action and sword fights. A kidnapping scene is well executed, and the staging is perfect. In this picture expert swordsmen take part, the costumes are appropriate, and altogether the subject is one of the best ever issued by the Selig Polyscope company.

The Merchant of Venice, Vitagraph, 980

feet.—The story of Shylock, who makes a loan to Bassanio, providing for a forfeit of a pound of flesh in case of non-payment. Shylock demands his pound of flesh in court, but it is decided that he must not spill a drop of blood.

The Flower Girl of Paris, Vitagraph, 680 feet.—A little flower girl, living in a thieves' den, faints on the street. A rich young man picks her up, places her in his automobile, carries her to his apartments, and revives her with some wine. She is given food and drink, and her protector takes her out. In the meantime the thieves have followed them, break into the apartments, steal everything, and depart. The thieves then send a decoy letter to the young man, offering to return the plunder for a cash reward, and sign it the Flower Girl. She learns of the plan to trap the young man, and notifies the police. The millionaire proceeds to the address given, and is overpowered by the gang. One of them fires at the captive, but the little girl springs in front of him and is shot dead, as the officers arrive and capture the robbers.

The Hazers, Vitagraph, 300 feet.—The experiences of a lad at college, who is driven to distraction by hazers. He is stricken with brain fever, and the thoughtless students, upon his recovery, beg for forgiveness. The principal expels them, but on the sick lad's pleadings they are reinstated, promising to renounce the practice of hazing.

In Golden Days, Essanay, 1,000 feet.—A story of the days of '49. A caravan is crossing the Humboldt valley destined to California. They come upon a white camp of dead men and women, killed by Indians. The only survivor is a girl of five. A youth is singing the child to sleep when the Indians swoop upon the camp, killing all but the boy and child, superstitiously believing that the singing emanates from a spirit. The couple are found by miners, and after a number of years the rich relatives of the girl discover her and take her to Europe. The boy is broken-hearted. An old musician with faith in the boy's voice takes him as a traveling singer to Europe, where he meets a famous composer who makes a great singer of him. While appearing in a theater the girl, grown to womanhood, comes in, recognizes him, and the two are united.

The Faun, Pathe, 442 feet.—An ugly faun is in love with Diana, who loves another. The jealous faun strikes down his rival and escapes, but Cupid restores his victim to life. The enraged nymphs chase the faun through fiery caves and wild woods and capture him. Diana appears and pours water over him; petrifying him into a stone image.

Faithful Little Doggy, Pathe, 285 feet.—Showing the sagacity of a little dog who follows a thief who has stolen his mistress' purse and brings about the arrest of the culprit.

Too Much Snuff, Pathe, 246 feet.—A man intrudes upon a party of jolly girls, and is given a shower of snuff, causing a long fit of violent sneezing all the way home, and results in his securing a good beating from his wife.

Antique Wardrobe, Pathe, 640 feet.—The experience of a young man who hides from

the father of his sweetheart in an antique wardrobe, in a second hand store. The wardrobe is bought and delivered to the purchaser. The fellow sneaks out and steals the dinner on the table, and causes much dissension in the household, the police are called, and finally the culprit comes out and the joke is explained to the satisfaction of all.

An Awkward Habit, Pathe, 331 feet.—A man who has the habit of sticking out his tongue gets in all kinds of trouble. He is pronounced incurable by a doctor, and arriving home finds a large beef tongue served for dinner. This so angers him that he beats his wife, and smashes everything in the room.

The Gallant Guardsman, Pathe, 571 feet.—A street singer is insulted by a civilian, and a soldier thrashes the ruffian, and escorts the girl home. The enraged ruffian gets a companion, and the soldier is attacked on a lonely road, kills one of his assailants with his sabre. The ruffian escapes and rushes to the barracks, returning with the officers. The soldier is arrested, court-martialed and condemned to die. The girl, after repeated efforts, finally secures admission to the fort; just as her defender is about to be shot. The commanding officer hears her story, pardons the young soldier, and kicks his accuser out.

Silhouettes, Pathe, 371 feet.—A trick film, colored, showing grotesque figures and amusing pictures.

Bill Wants to Marry a Toe Dancer, Pathe, 462 feet.—Bill, a country lad, deserts his sweetheart, and determines to marry an actress. She follows him to town, resolved to become a toe dancer. She meets a party of jolly students, to whom she confides, and they fit her out with a costume and make her hop about. Finally Bill appears, looking for a toe dancer, and is presented to the girl. He is greatly surprised to find his little fiancée a toe dancer, she confesses the cause of her coming to town, he takes her to his heart again, and they go back to the village.

Water Sports, Pathe, 436 feet.—Pictures taken in Paris during the International Athletic contest of expert swimmers. Exhibition of high diving, water polo, tilting contest, etc.

Note: Lubin films received too late for classification. They will be found elsewhere in this issue.

Minstrel Notes.

Gloversville, N. Y., Dec. 20. Hagen & Brockway, of the Al. G. Field minstrels, visited friends here while the show was laying off for a time before Christmas.

For Brothers have closed with the De-Rue Brothers minstrels and are rehearsing a vaudeville act, which will be billed as The Three Fox Brothers.—LOCK-RON.

Business Good and Bad.

Selma, Ala., Dec. 19. Thruston, the Magician, had poor business at the Academy (Wm. Wilby, mgr.), Dec. 14. Florence Gear had good business, 15, but the Southern stock company fared badly 16-18.—LILIEN-THAL.

FOR RENT 6,000 ft. film, 3 sets slides, 6 at a time, \$12 per week. For Sale 1000 ft. reels slightly used film, \$10 per reel. Edison Ex Model \$50. 3000 ft. Passion Play \$40. Wanted to Buy Passion Play and other film machines. H. DAVIS, Watertown, Wis.

MAKE YOUR OWN SLIDES without the aid of photography, from ordinary newspaper cuts, photographs, post cards, colored illustrations, etc. You Can Make Your Own Announcement Slides, Advertisements, Illustrated Song Slides, Colored Pictures from comic paper supplements. Slides can be made in a few minutes. Plain or in Colors. Complete outfit and directions, \$1.00. MIDLAND TRANSPARENCY COMPANY, 2107 South 10th Street, OMAHA, NEB.

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Will Open January 1st, 1909.

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- All car lines at door.
- No inside rooms.
- Perfect rooms.
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- Electric lights.
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- Steam heat and baths.
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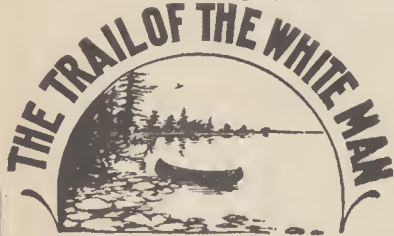
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KALEM FILMS

Issue of January 1, 1909



A Splendid Drama of Indian Life

Length 975 feet

In the marvelous motion picture story we show in exact detail two of the most interesting customs of the Indians, i. e. Love-making and Burial. Highly educational and interesting

Special next week—The First of the new southern pictures "A FLORIDA FEUD"

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First one-in-stalled by V. C. Seaver's Moving Picture Show, The Alcazar, 108 E. Madison St., Chicago, with wonderful financial success.

THE FOLLOWING IS WHAT MR. SEAVER SAYS FOR OUR ORGAN:
THE CHICAGO PIPE ORGAN CO., 523 Roanoke Bldg., Chicago, Ill.
Gentlemen:—It gives me great pleasure to express my satisfaction with the result of the Pipe Organ which you installed in my theatre. It has done more for me than I ever anticipated or dared hope for. My business has more than doubled since the organ was installed. The best proof of my appreciation is my order for the same organ in the Princess Theatre, which I am building at Peoria, Ill. In my opinion, no theater is complete without an organ. \$10,000 would not buy mine were it impossible to get another. Will be pleased to have you refer any one to me. Yours very truly,
Vernon L. Seaver
Visit the Alcazar Theatre and see for yourself the wonderful results. Can be installed in any theatre at a much less price than you expect, and with greater results than you ever dreamed of. Write for full information to the
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INDEPENDENT FILMS

Among the film subjects recently released by Independent manufacturers are the following:

Mr. Jones at the Ball, Biograph, 503 feet.—Mr. Jones, of ponderous figure, is averse to dress clothes. His wife, a society leader, persuades him to don evening attire and go to a ball. In making a courtly bow his trousers split. His wife bribes the attendant in the ladies' parlor to let them in, and she proceeds to repair the rent. After jabbing him a few times with the needle, however, she finds it necessary for him to take off the trousers, which he does behind a screen. In the meantime the door is besieged by a number of indignant dames who wish to enter, the matron is pushed aside and Mrs. Jones pushes her husband through a door into a closet, as she thinks. It proves to be the ballroom, and Jones stands embarrassed in the midst of the dancers. Grabbing up a rug he rushes back, and the ladies flee. Jones at one door and his wife at the other try to keep out the crowd, but finally the doors cave in, and Jones jumps out of the window, landing on the head of a policeman who carts him to the station on a wheelbarrow.

The Christmas Burglars, Biograph, 679 feet.—A poor woman is driven frantic by the thought that the larder is empty the day before Christmas. The little one writes to Santa Claus, asking him to come and bring them food. The mother tries to pawn her cloak, but the broker will advance her nothing. As she goes out she accidentally drops the child's letter, the pawnbroker finds it, his heart is touched, and he enlists the services of a couple of burglars who break into the widow's home. The mother and child are placed slightly under the influence of chloroform so they will not awaken, a tree is set up, and ornaments, toys and provisions are generously provided. The pawnbroker, watching through the key-hole, is overjoyed at the sight of the happy couple, the little girl believing that it was in answer to her letter that Santa Claus really came.

The Black Sheep, Italia Rossi, 600 feet.—A pathetic subject showing two brothers, one doing everything possible to assist his mother and family, and the other dodging his responsibility. A number of strong sensations are depicted.

The Holy Hermit, Gaumont, 500 feet.—Showing a community ruled by women. The men at one time governed matters, but incurring the wrath of the hermit the rule of authority is transferred to the feminine sex. A series of comical incidents are portrayed. After he has sufficiently humiliated the men, the hermit again restores them to power.

In Bondage, Gaumont, 674 feet.—Portraying the condition of the Roman empire sev-

eral centuries ago. The incident of a slave, in love with another slave, thwarted by his master, who is infatuated with the woman, and through miscalculated events causes the death of the one he loves.

The Little Marchioness and the Young Shepherdess, Gaumont, 434 feet.—A demure little miss, discontent with life, changes positions with a young shepherdess. The latter, being unsophisticated, makes a failure in the social world, and the former becomes discontent because of her inability to cope with the situations and conditions found in her new surroundings.

In the Nick of Time, Aquila, 560 feet.—Two parents become infuriated because of differences of their children, engage in fierce combat, and are persuaded to adjudicate their differences by the pleading of the little ones, who thus restore peace between the two households.

George and Margaret, Raleigh and Roberts, 667 feet.—A story of love and devotion. The young lady's father evicts the lover, who, disheartened, enlists in the army. He is wounded in battle and taken to a hospital. He receives a medal for valor, the papers publish an account, and the father of the girl relents. He escorts his daughter to the hospital, and permits the couple to be reunited.

W. S. A. BOARD TAKES IMPORTANT ACTION.
Sanctions Two State Championship Races and Decides What Shall Constitute a World's Championship Race.

At a meeting of the Board of Control of the Western Skating Association held at the association office Monday night, Dec. 21, a sanction was granted for the Minnesota State championships for indoor ice championships for the week of Jan. 10 to 16, 1909. A sanction was also granted to the Wisconsin Skating Association for the Western Outdoor Ice championships to be held at Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 10 to 16, 1909.

The constitution and by-laws which were referred back to the Board of Control at the annual meeting for approval was revised and passed and the association will publish its new hand book, which will be of highest value to all lovers of ice and roller skating, hockey, roller polo and curling.

The Board also acted on the much-talked of world's records and the confusion formerly existing by reason of any old race being called a "world's championship." Under the new ruling, no record for either ice or roller will be recognized, unless the track has been officially surveyed by officials appointed by the chairman of the racing board of the W. S. A., and no record will be allowed unless one or more members of the association are present at the time of the race or are acting as timers and who shall use watches made for that purpose. Rinks holding such races must, therefore, notify the association so that it can have a representative present.

Edward Schwartz defeated Richard Anderson, the state professional in the one-mile pursuit race, at the White City roller rink Saturday evening, Dec. 19, by ten feet and claims to have clipped one and two-fifths seconds off the time made by Fred Tyrrell, which was also claimed at 2:53 2-5 seconds.

Fred Tyrrell is given credit for setting a new world's mark for a mile on roller skates at Riverview rink Saturday night, claiming the distance in 2:32 1-5. The event was a handicap and Tyrrell started

Biograph Films

The Christmas Burglars

A Story of Christmas Eve in Poverty Row
Showing how a child's letter to Santa Claus softened the heart of an avaricious pawnbroker, who, under the spell of the Christmas spirit, brings happiness to a poor, unfortunate widow and baby.
LENGTH, 679 FEET.

Mr. Jones at the Ball

And He Wore a Tight Pair of Trousers
What happened to this genial individual when his bulging adiposity pushed its way through the too-narrow confines of a dress suit.
The funniest comedy subject yet produced.
LENGTH, 503 FEET.

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from scratch. Magdefessel and Hengst gave Tyrrel a fine argument, but in a sensational finish he won by almost two yards.

The time claimed is one and two-fifths seconds faster than the time made by William Robinson about a year ago.

Two fast exciting races were decided Saturday night at the Sans Souci rink. The one mile open went to William Garner, with C. Caswell second and A. Kirk third.

The three-mile race was won by Stuart

Garner, with Nip Melzer second and E. Lindberg third. Between the first and second races exhibition of back skating and jumping was given which proved to be very satisfactory for the first time presented.—J. T. FITZGERALD.

Dance of Seven Veils.
Cleveland, O., Dec. 23.
Louis Rich, musical director of the Opera house, arranged Richard Strauss' The Dance of the Seven Veils for use between acts of Paid in Full last week.

WANTED

SHOWS, CONCESSIONS, FREE ACTS, RIDING DEVICES.

Owned and Operated by the PARK CIRCUIT & REALTY CO.

Forest Park Highlands, St. Louis, Mo.
Fontaine Ferry Park, Louisville, Ky.
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These are the leading parks in their respective cities. All well located and have been in operation for years. We have the room and location for a few first-class concessions in each park. Same must be of good apprance. Also would like to book some good shows. The right attractions will find here a profitable season, playing these four parks in a circuit, changing only when business justifies. The best out-door attractions in the country can get time here next summer. Propositions solicited. Have room for any new practical riding device.

JOHN D. TIPPETT, General Manager
PARK CIRCUIT & REALTY CO.
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Address Phonoscope inquiries to St. Louis office

PRESS DEPARTMENTS ARE BEING ORGANIZED.

More Important Shows Have Decided
Upon Press Representatives for
Season of 1909.

There will not be many changes made in the press departments of the leading circuses next season.

Jay Brady, Jay Rial, Guy F. Steely, Charles H. White, Dexter Fellows and Frank Miller will be with Ringling Brothers again in 1909, and it is quite likely that Tom North will succeed Frank O'Donnell, who resigned. This corps of press agents will be divided between the Ringling Brothers and the Barnum and Bailey shows.

Major John M. Burke will be story man with the Buffalo Bill and Pawnee Bill Wildwests Combined, and Walter K. Hill will be contracting press agent. Fred Mordaunt Hall will be back with the show again.

The press departments of the Hagenbeck-Wallace and Sells-Floto shows have not yet been arranged. There are many scribes who seek positions with these two shows.

John D. Carey has evidently been re-engaged as press agent for Cole Brothers next season to judge from a story which appeared in the Buffalo Courier recently. The Courier was made to say, and on the front page, too, that Cole Brothers would not listen to a proposition for a division of territory for the coming year and that the show "threw down the gauntlet, asking no favors or extending none." Of course there was no basis for the statement other than an attempt to rival Sells-Floto and the Miller Brothers in notoriety. A man by the name of M. J. Cole was quoted. M. J. Downs is supposed to own the show.

"Texas Burt" Show Stranded.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 21.

Stranded and broke, about thirty employees of "Texas Burt" are loitering about Center Block and wondering where they will get the next meal, their employer and manager having absented himself from the city with many bills said to be unpaid. "Texas Burt" came here a month ago and talked of an "indoor Coney Island" for El Paso. After making most of the arrangements he left town.

"Texas Burt," or Burt Ritchie, has spent a number of years in the show business and was at one time well to do. He has dropped most of his former fortune, however, and it is supposed he was unable to carry out his plans for a winter's engagement.—WHITECAR.

THE GATES CIRCUS PROBABLY A MYTH.

Time Is Valuable Now If He Really
Thinks of Having Show on the
Road by May.

Time is getting valuable to John W. Gates if he really plans a big circus for next year, and the failure of his lieutenants to get busy is grounds sufficient to conclude that the Gates circus is as yet only a dream of the great financier.

A seventy or eighty car show cannot be organized in a week. There is little property in first-class condition which can be purchased, and as everyone agrees that Gates would put out a good show if he launched one the proposition is almost impossible at this late date.

It would require a year for an ordinary man with all kinds of money to get a show ready. It would take Gates until August to get a show on the road unless he can do more than anyone gives him credit for.

The cars of a circus must be built to order. Sixty-foot cars are not found on every siding. The wagons and cages must be built to order. There are plenty of cross-car cages in the country, but few large ones in condition. The printing necessary for a fight with other shows should be under way by Jan. 1 and the designing alone would take a great deal of time. It is an apparently unimportant item, but it requires seasoned lumber for stringers, jacks, poles, and other equipment and it is doubtful if it could be found.

Unless there is much activity in evidence on Jan. 2 the public at large may depend upon it that the Gates circus will not be on the road next summer.

In the meantime Col. Lon Williams, press agent for the Rhoda Royal Indoors Circus, should be the happiest man on earth.

Parks and Fairs.

Avon park in Youngstown, Ohio, is not likely to be open next summer.

George Rose will manage Idora park at Youngstown, Ohio, and Cascade park at New Castle, Pa., again next summer.

Extensive improvements are to be made in Roseville park on the Youngstown, Ohio, and Sharon, Pa., street railway line.

The resolution of the fair managers contemplating doing away with the midways has been well received by newspapers throughout the country.

W. M. Johnson and Charles R. Frances, of Riverview in Chicago, accompanied by their wives and Mr. Johnson's daughter, Gladys, left this week for a trip to Mexico.

Chicago capital is said to be back of a new park at Knoxville, Tenn. About 75 acres of land has been secured and it will be four miles from the city. It will be fashioned after White City in Chicago.

OUR BARGAIN BOOK IS NOW READY FOR YOU.

30 pages of tents, and fixtures, including Tents, Seats, Lights, Chairs, etc. Maybe we have what YOU WANT.

BAKER & LOCKWOOD MFG. CO.
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UNION STOCK YARDS, CHICAGO, ILL.

We Handle Yearly
Over 20,000 Horses
and a great many of our
consignments consist of
high class, fancy draft
horses, choice riding and
driving horses, etc.

We can fill your order
for any amount and will
be pleased to hear from
you at any time.

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SEASON 1909

Attractions with merit and drawing power, including Freaks,
Prodigies, Unique Acts and Musical Exhibits, Etc.

WANTED ESPECIALLY MIDGETS. (No Dwarfs.) Also
High-Class Musical Act. 2 to 4 People, fine
Wardrobe, Layout, etc.

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING NEW, WE WANT IT

Address, LEW GRAHAM, Mgr. Annex
601 W. 182d Street, New York City. "Silence Negative"

4PAW-SELLS SHOW NOT GOING OUT.

This Conclusion Said to Have Been
Reached at Yearly Meeting of
Ringling Brothers.

The Ringling Brothers have been holding their yearly meeting at Baraboo, Wis., this week and among other important things decided, according to reports, was to let the Forepaugh-Sells name lay idle another year.

Two shows will fill the demand in what looks like it might be another off season according to the decision of the five brothers who control the destinies of the three greatest shows in America.

The work of organizing the shows for next season is now well under progress and the Ringling's feel that they are extremely fortunate in surrounding themselves with good men for the season of 1909.

CIRCUS NOTES

C. D. McIntire has returned from Asheville, N. C., and is now in Chicago.

Sam McCracken left Chicago Monday to spend Christmas in Kansas City.

John H. Sparks circus consists of one advertising car, two passenger, two stock and two flats.

The Sun Brothers Greater Shows, consisting of eight cars, closed its season at Chauncey, Georgia, Dec. 21.

Harry Earl has taken a desk with the Morgan Lithographing Co., in the Grand opera house building in Chicago.

John Havlin, who had his fingers hurt in the circus business, is reported to have read the Gates stories recently with a good deal of interest.

Barnum & Bailey's circus, which hasn't been seen in Chicago since the days of the old lake front, will play an engagement at the Coliseum in the spring.

An unconfirmed rumor has it that C. H. Thompson, since disposing of his interests to P. L. Waters, of New York, is to be identified with Martin Downs as adjuster of the Cole Brothers' shows.

D. C. Freeman has resigned as manager of the Oaks, a big pleasure resort at Portland, Ore., and it is whispered that he will have an important concession at the Seattle exposition.

The Cosmopolitan Shows are at Thomasville, Ga., this week, and go to Tifton next week. The week of Jan. 4

Bear Cubs For Sale suitable for training.
15 Polar Bears, Russian and Black Bears, Pair Kangaroos, Llamas and all kinds of Wild Animals.

Wenz & Mackinson, Yardley, Pa. Dept. U.

"In Union there is Strength"

BUFFALO BILL'S WILD WEST AND PAWNEE BILL'S GREAT FAR EAST

A Grand Combination of
the World's Only Historic

National and International Exhibitions

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A Week's Vacation.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 25.
When the Nearly a Hero company concluded its engagement here it was understood that the organization would rest a week and reopen at the Garrick in Chicago.

Sam Bernard, the star, called the company together after the Saturday night performance, and instead of arranging rehearsals for the days when the members of the company drew no pay he announced that their time was their own and that all he asked was that every member of the organization be at the Garrick in Chicago at 11 o'clock Sunday, Dec. 20.

This is so different from the plan adopted by other stars and managers that it deserves a note.

Mr. Bernard is said to be very kind and considerate of all the members of his company at all times; from principal down to chorus man.

Marriages.

HEGGE-CHAMBERS—J. A. Hegge and Mary Chambers, both members of the Dilton stock company, were united in marriage at Cincinnati, Dec. 12.

CHANDLER-LARUE—It has just been announced that Byron Chandler, son of Senator Chandler of New Hampshire, and Grace Larue of the Nearly a Hero company, were married some time ago.

SANGER-BURNS—Louis P. Sanger, son of the late Frank Sanger, and Florence L. Burns were married in New York. The bride was divorced Dec. 18 from W. H. Greaves.

Lubin's New Subjects.

Dec. 28.
A NEW YEAR. Poverty. Driven to despondency. A rich man's home. The first wrong. The child's prayer. Confession. A new year. Beautiful sentimental picture. Length 585 feet.

A NEW YEAR'S GIFT. The statue of Venus. Let's give it to Mrs. Walker. Mrs. Walker's birthday party. The statue goes to Mrs. White. A birthday party. A New Year's reception. Smash it. An appropriate comedy. Length 330 feet.

THE HOUSE AT THE BRIDGE. At the factory. The foreman. An undesirable lover. In the shadow of the night. The proprietor's den. Revenge. The house at the bridge. Saved. "Where is my son?" The real perpetrator. The lovers united. Length 590 feet.

THE FORGOTTEN WATCH. Train time. The collision. Missing the watch. The messenger boy. A chase with many obstacles. Caught. The watch has been found. He got what he deserved. A screamer. Length 285 feet.

KALEM FILMS.

(Received too late for classification.)
THE TRAIL OF THE WHITE MAN—Tells the story of a surveying party which was blazing the way for one of the great trans-continental railroads in the early seventies. The head of this surveying party, a young man of gigantic stature and magnificent physical development, but of unscrupulous morals, won the affections of a young squaw and induced her to leave her tribe and home. After a while it became necessary for the surveying party to move on. The surveyor had become weary of his dusky sweetheart in the meantime and deserted her. The squaw's Indian husband, however, had discovered his loss and had been doggedly following the trail. He came upon the young squaw just as she had been left to her fate. Enraged by her story, the Indian vowed vengeance and after a weary pursuit finally came upon the surveyor alone. His vengeance was

one of the most terrible that can be imagined.

Can't Oust Savage.

New York, Dec. 23.
The Madison Square Garden company cannot oust Henry W. Savage as lessee of the Garden theater until May 1, 1910, when the Savage lease expires, according to the decision of the supreme court. The company declared that Savage did not keep the house open as many weeks as he had promised.

ACTORS WERE REALLY TRULY PAID IN FULL.

No Half Salary for Artists with the Five Shows of That Name.

Elgin, Ill., Dec. 21.
There was no half salary week for the artists with the Paid in Full companies this season. The road managers were notified to see that salaries were "paid in full."

One company played a return date here Dec. 18 to good business, but hurt Donald Robertson and A Message from Mars, which came on the preceding nights. The Robertson players had less than \$20.

The Star, after being dark for ten days, opened Dec. 17 with The Honey Bunch Minstrels and The Cliffords. Janeks and Priekett are the managers.

Return Date Paid.

Ottawa, Ill., Dec. 21.
A Message from Mars at the Ottawa theater (W. A. Peterson, manager) had fair business Dec. 15 and the return date of Paid in Full, Dec. 19, was very successful.—CAIRNS.

New Theater Opened.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 17.
The new Ridgeway theater at Colfax, Wash., was formally opened Dec. 16 by Poyland. Standing room was at a premium. Excursions from the neighboring towns brought many to see the new theater and the opening performance was a decided success socially and financially. The new theater is said to be one of the finest in that part of the country and has a seating capacity of 700. Bert Kuhn is manager.—SMITH.

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KEITH WILL PRODUCE ACTS IN CLEVELAND.

The Hippodrome, His Newly Acquired Property at Cleveland, to be Adapted to This Purpose.

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 24.
Cleveland is to become the producing center for vaudeville. Managers, the entire country over, will turn to Cleveland for news about the latest vaudeville sensation. Mechanical spectacles, big ballets and all manner of acts are to be produced in Cleveland, after which they will tour the United States, and the most successful ones go to European circuits.

Shortly after the opening of Keith's Hippodrome next Monday, Mr. Keith intends equipping the immense space beneath the Hippodrome stage and auditorium as a manufactory of vaudeville novelties. There will be a blacksmith shop, a carpenter shop, a scenic shop and all other kinds of shops necessary for launching theatrical enterprises.

About 100 theatrical artisans, dress-makers, mechanics, electricians, carpenters and the like will be brought on from the east to make their homes in Cleveland and he permanently employed in the producing center. This is the first time any showman has ever chosen Cleveland as a producing center. Mr. Keith will invest heavily here in this equipment. His purpose in coming to Cleveland is complex. The size of the Hippodrome building gives excellent opportunity for the venture and Cleveland audiences are considered by the Keith people. It is said, the best vaudeville critics in the world.

Special effort is being made to have the scenic department unusually proficient. Three European artists will be employed on miniature models for stage sets and the Keith Institution will enter the competitive field and offer bids for the scenic equipment of legitimate productions. There will be a ballet master brought from London to train young women for girl acts and a regular singing school will be established in conjunction with the rest of the producing business.

Cleveland is about to acquire, upon the same day, two absolutely new theatrical enterprises. It was officially announced yesterday that upon the entrance of Keith into the Hippodrome his old show-house on Prospect avenue will be turned into a picture show, different in every particular from any so-called moving picture show now operating in the city.

The Prospect avenue theater will be the same old house in every particular, except as to attractions. It will be wholly divorced from vaudeville and devoted entirely to the Keith kind of picture show.

Throughout the east Keith maintains a circuit of theaters devoted to picture shows. All of the shows are unique because of their wide difference from the store picture shows, so common in western cities. In New York city several of the best houses have been given over exclusively to Keith for his picture performances. There are no sketches nor illustrated song singing. The pictures are reproductions of interesting places all over the world in travelogue form. Each picture is lectured upon as it is produced.

The Rockford Amusement Company, —FRYE.

Miss Ruby Is Dead.

Lexington, Ky., Dec. 23.
Miss Ruby, champion dog diver of the world, died Dec. 18. She was the property of William H. Sharp. The dog dived 72 feet or made a 20-foot higher dive than any of the other 125 in the championship of the world contest at Indianapolis.—CANDIOTO.

Increase of Capital Stock.

Rockford, Ill., Dec. 22.
The Rockford Amusement Company, the men behind the proposed Majestic Vaudeville house, have decided to increase the amount of capital stock to \$10,000, making the shares \$10 each in-

stead of \$100. It was originally capitalized at \$3,500. The Bijou vaudeville theater opened Monday, Dec. 21.—SCHUSTER.

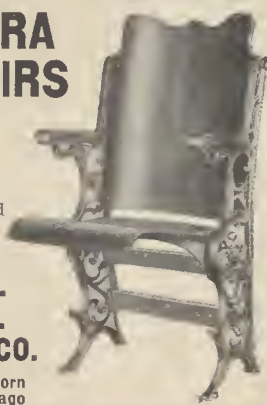
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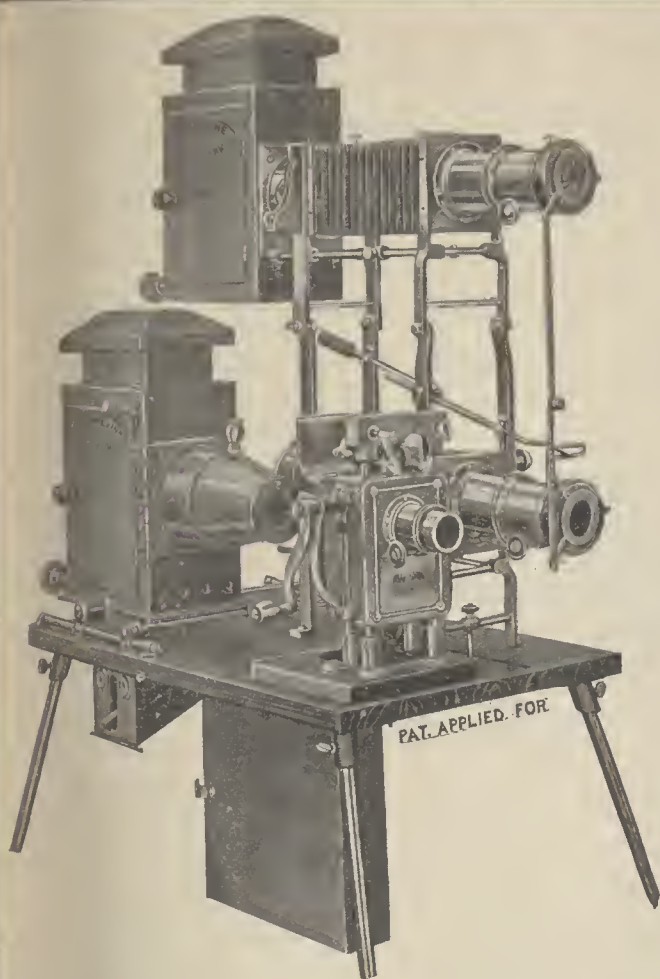
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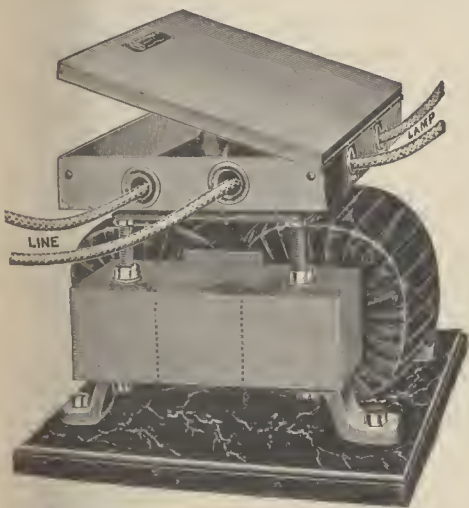
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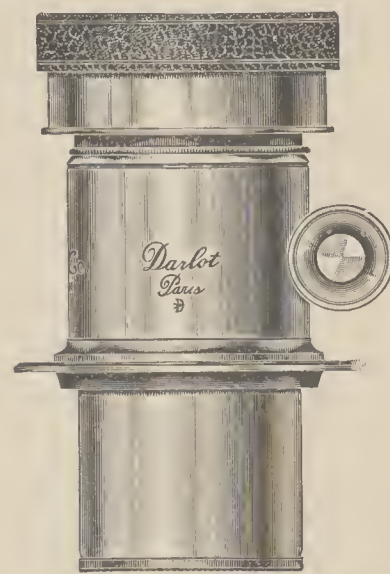
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ROLLER RINK NEWS

See Other Pages for Late Rink News.

SKATING UNION ARRANGES SCHEDULE.

Eastern, Western and Canadian Amateur Chiefs Make Plans for the Season.

At a meeting of the International Skating Union of the United States, held at the Murray Hotel, New York, Cleveland was selected as the place for the holding of the national indoor skating championship and Pittsburg for the international competition by the International Skating Union of the United States and Canada. The union also fixed the dates and places for the season's other competitions. The schedule of sanctioned amateur speed and figure champions adopted is as follows:

National indoor championship, at Cleveland, O., week of January 25 to 30.

International indoor championship, at Pittsburg, Pa., week of January 25 to 30.

International outdoor championship, at Saranac Lake, N. Y., week of February 1 to 6.

Canadian outdoor championships, at Montreal, week of February 1 to 6.

Eastern outdoor championship, at Newburgh, N. Y., date to be fixed later.

Eastern indoor championship, at St. Nicholas rink, New York City, date to be fixed later.

National outdoor championships, at Verona Lake, N. J., February 22.

International figure skating championships, Elysium rink, Cleveland, O., date to be decided on later.

It was announced that the carnival of winter sports at Saranac Lake will be held on Feb. 2 to 5, 1909.

Mr. Allen I. Blanchard, honorary president of the Western Skating Assn., represented the western body.

Robinson vs. Tyrrell?

What will now interest us more than anything else would be the match for the Chicago American challenge cup now held by Fred Tyrrell, when he defeated Robinson at Riverview a few weeks ago before Robinson was in his present shape. A match between Tyrrell and Robinson at the present time when both are in the pink of condition would draw the largest house ever known in Chicago.

Keppler In the Field.

Chick Keppler, the once great south side wonder, has announced his return to racing and some of the amateurs who have been having things all their own way want to be prepared for "Chick" when he gets back in his stride. Keppler held the State championship last year.

Western Skating Association.

The Minnesota Skating Association has applied to the Western Skating Association for a sanction to draw off the Western Indoor Speed Skating Championship at Minneapolis the early part of January. They claim to have the largest covered skating rink in the world, stating that the Live Stock auditorium at the Minnesota State Fair grounds has been leased and is nearly in readiness for the skaters; it has a seating capacity of eight thousand people, with warming rooms and every convenience for the benefit of the public. The sanction will undoubtedly

be granted at the next meeting of the Board of Control of the Western Skating Association.

Mr. Gale E. Brooke, and Ed. N. Dickinson, manager of the Minneapolis Baseball Club, are the promoters.

Letters have already been received from Norvel Baptie, Morris Wood, E. Sinrud and Bellefeuille, who are all known to be great speed men, and who desire to go to Minneapolis and meet the skaters of the Northwest.

John J. Rueth has succeeded Bart J. Ruddle as manager of the Hippodrome rink of Milwaukee, Wis. Mr. Rueth is a young man and a live wire and ought to boom the sport.

Mr. Henry Sperber, manager of the Milwaukee Ball park, opened up the park to the ice skaters Sunday to a large crowd and the ice was perfect. Mr. Sperber intends to hold the outdoor speed ice championships there some time in January.

Allen I. Blanchard, honorary president Western Skating Association, will go to St. Louis, Mo., this week to arrange for the Southwestern Championships for both ice and roller.

St. Louis, Mo., has a new artificial rink, and reports say the people are very much impressed. The attendance is large.

Frank Mulkern, the Milwaukee fight promoter and manager of Ad. Wolgast, and others, gave a good account of himself as timer at the hippodrome races Saturday night, and said roller racing was as exciting as handling the scrap artists.

H. E. Fielding, of Fielding and Carlos, who open in Milwaukee this week, called at the Western Skating Association office to talk over old times and as the result the Western Skating Association has another good member.

William Robinson, of Chicago, won the one mile handicap at the Hippodrome Saturday night, with Freddie Shermer, of Milwaukee second and Frank Bork of Chicago third. The time was 3:24. Robinson won the first heat in 3:23½ and the second heat went to Emil Eichstedt, of Milwaukee.

In the final Robinson and Bork lined up on scratch, Shermer and Eichstedt on the 20-yard mark; Charley Devine, Geo. Lockerman, and Peggy O'Neil on the 30-yard mark. Arthur Miller was the limit man with 40 yards.

Miller held the lead for five laps, giving way to Shermer, who was hard pressed by Robinson. After three laps Shermer was passed by the champion, who quickly gained a lead of five yards, and held it until the final lap, when a final sprint brought him over the tape by ten yards.

Thousands of men, women and children in Illinois can testify to the fact that ice skating on the rivers and lakes is great sport, but unfortunately the weather has been too warm to admit of much of this healthy diversion this season.

To the residents of Chicago who have missed the delightful skating in the public parks, let this sport be heartily recommended, and those who have an opportunity to get out and glide a line or two over the glassy surface of some rivulet or park lake, get out and glide by all means, for of all the exhilarating, exciting and healthful little innocent sports, skating has 'em all beaten to a frazzle.

This is no fanciful jest. Ice skating is one of the finest of outdoor sports and he who does not indulge in it when he can throws away a glorious opportunity to get at the very essence of healthy sport.

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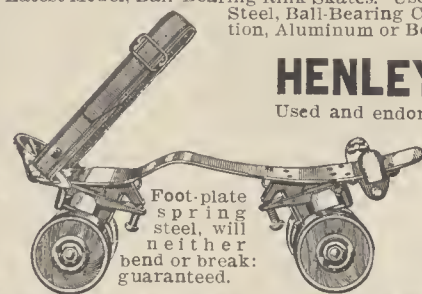
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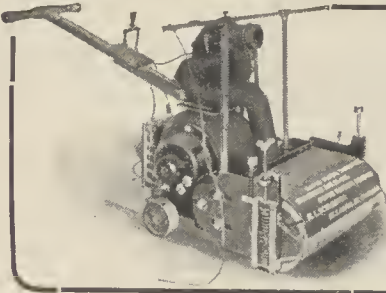
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A new rink and work is being rushed upon it. It is expected to open shortly.

Onawa, Ia.—The Onawa rink has opened. Geo. W. Foulke is manager and Dean Colby, assistant. It has the best social patronage.

Walthill, Neb.—A new rink has been opened by Ed. Harris and thus far promises to be a great success.

Fairbury, Neb.—The Fairbury Skating rink had Prof. Waltz as the chief attraction. He drew large crowds.

New York, N. Y.—Thomas Lee broke the five mile record here at the Metropolitan rink, the new time being 18:02. The old time was 21:30. Joe Carroll and Harry Donnie came in second and third respectively.

Cleveland, Ohio.—A school children's race is being arranged for December 30 at the Salem rink and great interest is being manifested.

Seward, Neb.—The new rink under the management of Theodore Thomas and Don Vanderhoof is proving a big success.

Correctionville, Iowa.—Walter Castle is being congratulated upon the success of the Shontz rink which opened here recently, and of which he is manager. Women and children are in the majority among the patrons.

Altoona, Pa.—Arrangements are under way to hold a 24-hour race at the Stadium rink here. Manager Peden predicts a big success for it. The date has not been set but it will take place about the end of December.

Charlotte, N. C.—Practically a new floor has been placed in the Auditorium rink here. An innovation is the reserving of the center of the floor for beginners for whom no charge is made for skates.

Vicksburg, Miss.—Samoyoa was a drawing card at the rink here and Manager White was congratulated upon the acquisition of such a feature.

Vincennes, Ind.—Costly favors were given away at the skating party held at the rink here. The novelty drew large crowds.

Fresno, Cal.—The skating championship of the San Joaquin Valley was won by a local boy, Charley Vierheller, at the Madera rink.

Patterson, N. J.—A roller race for ladies was a business magnet at the Auditorium rink.

Winona, Minn.—The rink which the city voted to maintain just west of the Milwaukee tracks is proving highly popular.

Paducah, Ky.—A local paper says of the work of Wastell, White and Turner: "They" are about the best in the business, doing the most difficult feats with no effort whatever."

Philadelphia, Pa.—Gold and silver medals were awarded for various forms of skating at the Expo rink and the affair drew immense crowds.

New York, N. Y.—William Blackburn will leave here for Washington, D. C., and thence to Chicago, where he hopes to meet Alie Moore, to decide the five mile world's championship. Blackburn now holds the world's record at one, two, three and five miles. He promises to tour the country.

Merrill, Wis.—Joseph Hildensperger who is building a roller skating rink in this city reports that the building will cost about \$6,000.

Marquette, Mich.—Within the next ten days or two weeks, the old foundry room of the Lake Shore Engine works will be transformed into a fine ice skating rink.

Bristol, Tenn.—The Princess skating rink, one of the most popular places in the city, has been leased by S. W. Miller, who will continue it at the present stand.

Moundsville, W. Va.—Ott and Al Daugherty, two well known men of this city, have leased the room in the Mound City hotel building on 7th street and the work of remodeling the interior in preparation for the opening of a first class skating rink will be begun at once.

Arcola, Ill.—H. A. Snell, of Danville, has rented the basement of the theater for a roller rink. Messrs. King & Mitchell managed the rink only a week.

Albion, Mich.—Richardson & Richards are rushing things at the big Coliseum skating rink and will be ready for the opening, Dec. 12.

Monmouth, Ill.—The R. I. skating rink has been reopened on the Three M. pond east of the city.

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Merrill, Wis.—The new Cosmo theater is going to be used for a skating rink. H. Somers will be the proprietor of the rink.

Hallsville, W. Va.—Davy Amusement company, capital \$5,000, will operate a skating rink. Incorporated by M. J. Riley and others.

Cherryvale, Kan.—D. R. Keedwell is running a portable rink here. The tent is 60x120 and the floor is 40x100. Audience 600; skaters 200. He is booking attractions and is finding business good.

Eureka, Kan.—The Herald here says: "Jack Fotch is the best skater that has ever performed at the local rink."

Butte, Mont.—There is not much doing in the roller rink, which has been closed since the big ice rink acquired its patronage and some more.

Lexington, Ky.—Bishop Clay looks forward to the greatest rink business in the history of the sport.

Cleveland, O.—The Ohio Skating Association passed the following resolution at its recent meeting:

"All races held in Ohio other than the national and international events shall first be sanctioned by the executive board of this skating association and shall be conducted by officers named by this association. Any skater taking part in any

event not so sanctioned shall be barred from taking part in all future events sanctioned by the association."

There are important letters at this office for many well known skaters. They will be forwarded on receipt of route.

Decorah, Ia.—The new roller rink in Marsh's building was opened by Duncan McMillan.

Clansman Losing Out.

Marshall, Tenn., Dec. 14. The Clansman is losing its drawing powers and when it appeared at the Empire Dec. 10, it had fair business only. Adelaide Thurston, at the Auditorium, Dec. 7, had much better business. Mahara's Minstrels come the 16th and A Thoroughbred Liar the 17th, being billed for the Auditorium.—NEY.

Local Company Prospers.

The Chicago Amusement Company started in business less than two years ago with one theater at 2950 State street and now operates and controls seven of the best paying moving picture theaters in Chicago. That located at 142 Madison street in the loop district is one of the finest theaters in the city.

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thousand dollars. The active members of the firm are D. E. Mulvey and F. H. Fishrapp.

The Chicago Amusement Company has absorbed the largest construction company, which fully equips moving picture theaters, namely, the Amusement Construction and Equipment Company, with offices in the Unity Building.

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The feature act by Romalo while standing on his head on a skate which runs on an inclined plane, from one end of rink to the other, is pronounced by the press as a most daring, marvelous, amazing and astounding feat. Ad., W. A. LaDuque, Mgr., Kansas City Headquarters

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WHEN IN DOUBT ASK **ETHEL MAY**
"THE MYSTERY GIRL"

Week Dec. 21, Grand Theatre, Springfield, Ohio

CHICAGO NOTES

E. J. McGuire succeeds Al Huntley as treasurer of the Olympic music hall.

Mrs. Walker Whiteside is in Chicago to spend the holidays with her husband.

Arthur Woolley has been specially engaged for next week's performance of Mikado at the International.

The Winterburn show print offices will be removed early in the new year, but the new location has not yet been definitely settled.

Jack Barrymore, Virginia Harned, and William Courtney were guests of Elsie Janis at a little party at the Auditorium Annex last Saturday night.

S. P. Gerson, formerly manager of the Whitney theater in Chicago, who has been ill for some time, is so far on the road to recovery that he has left the hospital.

The Columbia theater will discontinue its amateur nights until Jan. 8. Last Friday night the theater was packed and the amateurs offered some creditable acts.

Jake Simon, formerly a well known actor and manager, and now manager of the opera house at Benton Harbor, Mich., was in Chicago last week on business.

Jerry Sullivan is in town this week with The Mimic World. He was the original Mose in Simple Simon Simple and

was practically starred in the show for two or three seasons.

Thomas Rankine, who enjoys the enviable reputation of being one of the greatest side show orators in circus business, for a number of years identified in an executive capacity with the Barnum & Bailey Greatest Show on Earth, and other leading tented organizations, is in Chicago for the winter months. Mr. Rankine has not announced his plans for the coming season, but it is understood that he is to be affiliated with one of the big shows.

Mabel Mooreheart, stenographer to Doc Weber, of the Weber booking office, is one of the lucky ones in the Dillingham chorus girl contest. She will resign a \$15 a week position to accept a \$25 position with a traveling show.

Naif Cory, at Riverview last summer, has been having all kinds of law suits recently, in regard to his oriental show. He had a suit with the Murray tent company recently and replevined a camel from a Chicago sanitarium.

H. J. Dillon, formerly treasurer of the Illinois theater in Chicago, is now occupying the same position at the Garden.

Jack Hamilton has closed with the Big City Quartette, which was at the Majestic in Chicago recently, and has

joined hands with Miss Ronca. The pair will present a fifteen minute act in one called The Modern Gypsies, and were seen at the Indiana, in South Bend, Ind., last week. Miss Ronca is a clever violinist and Hamilton is an exceptionally good baritone.

Charles McDaniel, treasurer of the Grand opera house, who became a dog fancier several years ago, is receiving the congratulations of his friends through having his first entry in a dog show win three prizes, one first and two seconds. The prize winning animal is known as A Pickpocket's Beauty, and is a bat-eared Boston terrier, greatly admired at the recent display at the Coliseum.

Otis Harlan and his associates continue to make the Hal Stephens, Williams and Van Alstyne laughing song play, A Broken Idol, entertaining to the patrons of musical comedy on Van Buren street is in consequence enjoying a period of unlooked for prosperity, considering the proximity of the holidays. The piece is now traveling close to the second century of its stay with little prospect of a change for some time to come.

The first of the Sunday afternoon smoking concerts at the Garden theater will be given Dec. 27. Two soloists will appear and the orchestra will number 48 pieces.

A late show will be given at the Garden theater after the regular performance of A Winning Miss on New Year's eve. The new year will be welcomed royally, as Manager Noonan has made a call for additional libation bearers.

The annual statement of the Chicago Auditorium Association for the year ending Nov. 30, shows a surplus of \$15,816, or a couple of thousand more than in 1907. The theater this year earned about \$8,000 in excess of last year.

CAN LYCEUM THEATER OFFER VAUDEVILLE?

Or Is the Klaw-Erlanger-Stair-Havlin Agreement Binding Upon Individual Theater Managers?

There is said to be some excitement at Wilmington, Del., where the announcement was made that vaudeville would hold forth for a brief season. It is presumed that a White Rat company will fill that time if the deal is consummated.

W. L. Dockstader, of the Garrick in Wilmington, claims that he has a franchise with the Keith-Proctor people and that there was an agreement with Klaw, Erlanger, Stair & Havlin which prevents anything but combinations and moving pictures in the Opera house. Dockstader referred his grievance to the United Booking Office.

E. W. Rice, manager of the opera house at Wilmington, is quoted as stating that the house has not been a paying investment for the lessees in the past four or five years. "I feel I have a license to try any clean, wholesome form of entertainment that will serve to keep the theater open and give promise of success," he said. "Fairly good vaudeville and moving pictures at low prices seem now to be the choice diversion of the working classes throughout the entire country, and many of the city houses formerly devoted to melodrama are doing an enormous business with this class of entertainment. The Fourteenth Street theater, New York, and the People's theater, Philadelphia, are the two most pronounced cases in mind. In the former the weekly attendance averages considerably over thirty thousand people, while the latter is said to approach close to that figure.

Complainant Continues.

"Business in all the combination houses the country over, both popular and high priced, is considerably off this season and there is a consequent scarcity of attractions. What few good shows are out are required to fill the city time, with the result that the smaller cities are left almost entirely without attractions. Rents and operating expenses continue just the same and the managers of the combination playhouses are put to their wits end to devise ways and means of keeping above water. If the masses of Wilmington theatergoers want low priced entertainment there is no reason why the Opera house should not furnish it. Nearly two thousand people can be accommodated comfortably in the Opera house, and with this large capacity cheap prices do not necessarily mean cheap shows; neither does the fact that the management has not a bit of the United Booking Office franchise mean good acts are beyond reach. Good shows should mean good patronage, good patronage a good profit, and good profit the continuation of good shows.

"Of course, there are those who, from business reasons, seek to belittle that to which they owe the foundation of their success, and intimate that the 'trashy five-cent kind' of vaudeville now prevalent is not fit entertainment for wives, mothers, sweethearts and children, and that the class who patronize such entertainments are not fit associates for self-respecting people," he continued, "but at that it seems the opera house has so far maintained an average moral tone and

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CHICAGO

there is nothing to indicate the introduction of anything into its vaudeville that would be tabooed by the Gerry Society, prove displeasing to Anthony Comstock.

"As to the community of interest which prohibits the Opera house from entering the vaudeville field, and the admitting of the matter to the United Booking Office for settlement, I know nothing. The present lessees, or rather the party operating under the lease of the Opera house, is the Lyceum Theater Company, a Delaware corporation, that is in no way affiliated with the so-called Managers' Association and has nothing in common with the trust or syndicate arrangement of the booking arrangement with the Stair & Havlin office in New York. True enough, some of the stockholders of the Lyceum Theater Company are connected with Stair and Havlin and after the interest of the Opera house, that office, but so far as being bound any agreement which Stair and Havlin may have with the vaudeville people there is nothing more absurd possible suggestion. If there is anything to negotiate I do not know what it is, and unless I can understand why it should be referred to the United Booking Office.

It is not unlikely that the appearance of the White Rat organizations in legitimate theaters will cause many interesting developments and the White Rats insist that they do not fear a vaudeville war, but on the contrary will welcome as their fight is one of principle.

INFORMAL RECEPTION FOR AUGUSTA GLOSÉ

Marjorie Benton Cook Who is Writing Playlet for the Monologist Was Present.

One of the most charming informal of the season in honor of a stage favorite was a reception and musicale given Friday afternoon in the Music room of the Illinois theater, in Chicago, through the courtesy of Manager William Davis to Augusta Glosé, the well known music monologist. A number of known professional people were present in addition to the society friends of Glosé. The musical program presented was delightful by reason of its spiciness. Grace Kennicott provided songs, Clara Belle Bruce played violin selections in praiseworthy fashion and quite accidentally the famous oration of the well known composer, Borowski, who happened to be present. As the feature of the afternoon, Miss Glosé was induced to entertain produced a number of her imitations in characteristically sympathetic and fetching fashion. She ran the gamut of expression in a variety of selections from her familiar child vocal miniatures to French dialect diversions and to dialect songs that had the soft pat of the Sunny South. In fact they were dainty and delightful and aroused heartiest enthusiasm of her audience, notably Mr. Frohman who expressed himself as deeply interested.

As the final feature of an entertaining afternoon, Miss Marjorie Benton Cook gave her own sparkling original monologue, The Matinee Girl, in a swagger amusing and insinuating. Miss Cooke herself starts eastward week to storm the critical centers of series of afternoons in Boston and New York. It is understood she is now engaged in writing a playlet for Glosé, a line of work in which Cooke has been singularly successful.

Erickson Wanted.

There is a very important letter at office for Mr. Erickson, formerly of the Aetna Stage Lighting Company.



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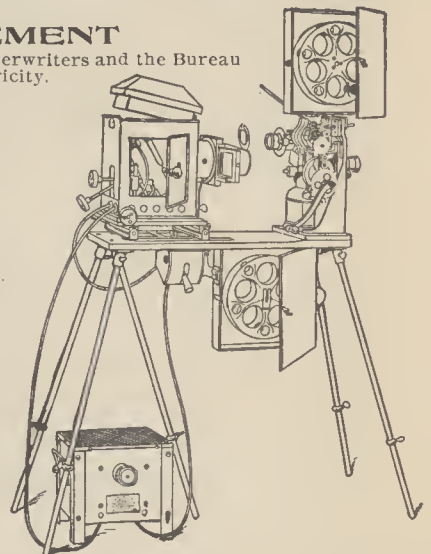
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